

THE AMERICAN
LEGION
 MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 1953

SEE PAGE 29



Report from
ST. LOUIS
 An account
 of the
**NATIONAL
 CONVENTION**

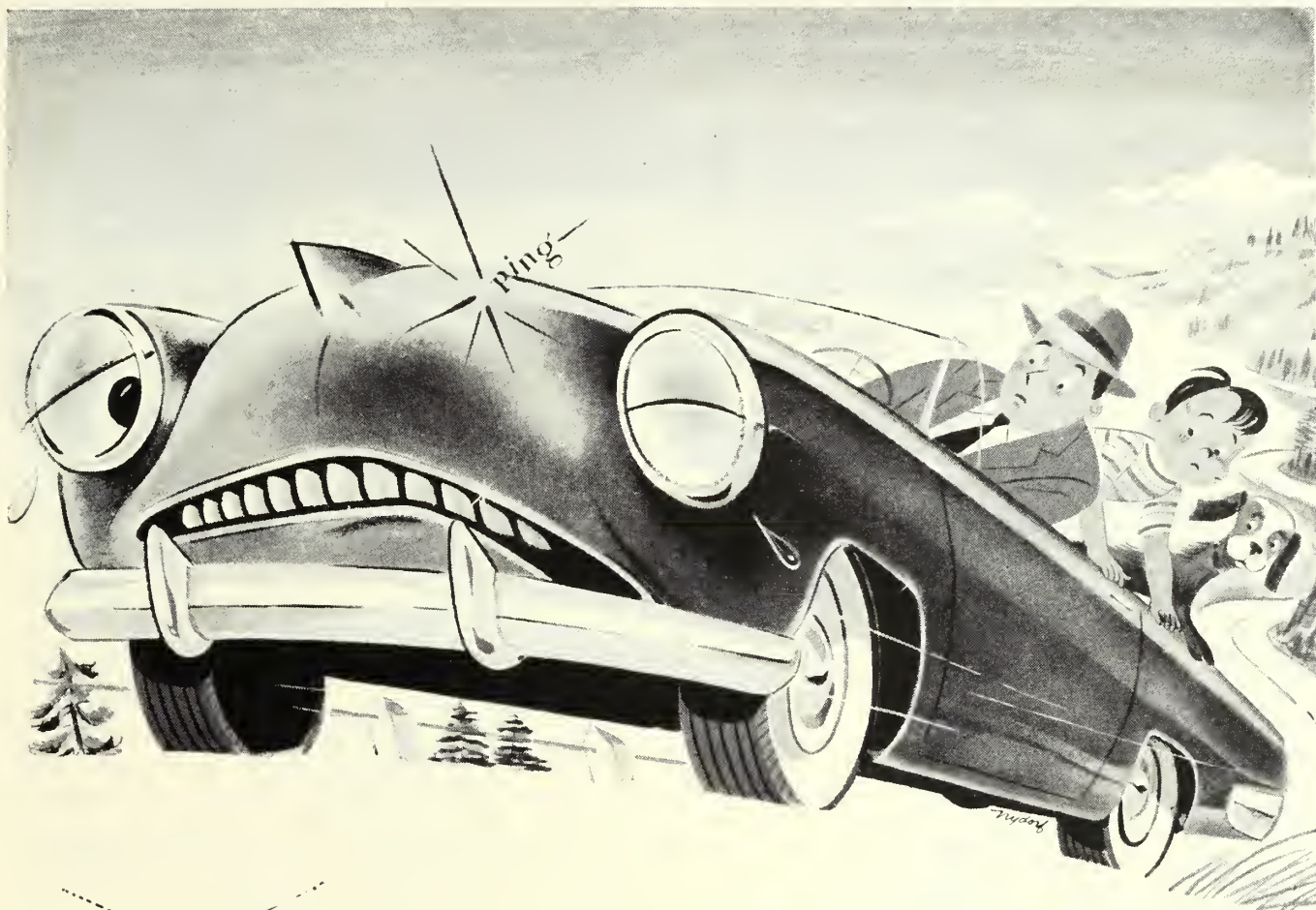




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Vol. 55 No. 4, October 1953

THE AMERICAN

LEGION

MAGAZINE

LEGION



Cover by WILLIAM O'BRIAN

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The American Legion Magazine is the official publication of The American Legion and is owned exclusively by The American Legion. Copyright 1953 by The American Legion. Published Monthly at 1100 W. Broadway, Louisville, Ky. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of Oct. 3, 1917, authorized Jan. 5, 1925. Price single copy, 15 cents; yearly subscription, \$1.50. Entered as second class matter June 30, 1948, at the Post Office at Louisville, Ky., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Non-member subscriptions should be sent to the Circulation Department of The American Legion Magazine, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind.

EXECUTIVE AND
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
Indianapolis 6, Indiana

EDITORIAL & ADVERTISING
580 Fifth Avenue
New York 36, N. Y.

WESTERN OFFICE
333 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago 1, Illinois

POSTMASTER: Please send copies returned under labels
Form 3579 to Post Office Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Indiana.

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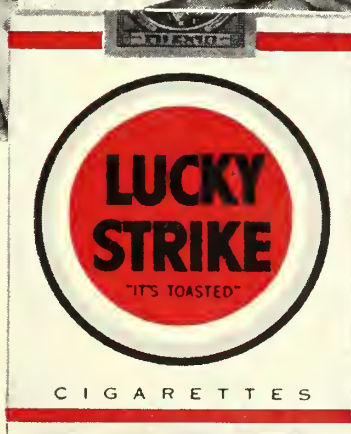
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Sound Off!



GIFT TO THE COMMIES

Sir: An obvious argument against the new treaty law, subjecting American troops to trials by foreign courts, was that the communists would use it to justify the "legal" sentencing of American prisoners of war on trumped-up charges. So when we read that 48 hours before they were to be released many GI's were sentenced to jail terms by the reds, we can thank our own government for adding to the misery and death of countless American boys. I hope that your wonderfully American organization will dig into this matter and the other shocking instances of our government's indifference to these most tragic victims of "UN Collective Security."

Mrs. Adelaide Hering
New York City



DRUM & BUGLE FAN

Sir: I think that you should have an article in your magazine strictly about drum corps. It is the best sport The American Legion sponsors. There are many of them that the Legion sponsors. This is the most colorful event of any Legion convention or parade. Many people will agree with me. Drum corps is my favorite pastime.

Eddie Turocy
Dover, N. J.

REACTIONARY TENDENCIES

Sir: Your continued running attack on the United Nations, academic freedom and the "eggheads" makes disgusting reading, and the support of the super-patriot opportunist Senator McCarthy makes it even more so. My conscience no longer permits me to continue my membership of The American Legion in its present form. Furthermore, I feel it my duty to point out the reaction-

ary tendencies of the Legion hierarchy to my friends and acquaintances.

John Haiduk
Philadelphia



CHECK LIST

Sir: Thanks to you and to Victor Lasky for his most informative article in the August issue *How to Understand Communism*. So many times I've read in various other articles of some book or another dealing with anti-communist information, and at the time of the reading intended fully to ask for it at the library. Whenever I was there, however, I'd discover I'd forgotten either the author or the correct title. But now I've cut out the check-list compiled by Mr. Lasky and have it tacked in a handy place for quick reference. I intend to use it and to take the other suggestions made by Mr. Lasky to help in the fight for more thorough distribution of anti-communist literature.

Mrs. W. Galjone
New York City

LISTEN TO THE BOYS

Sir: My boy returned from Boys' State last Sunday afternoon. He was simply brimming over with enthusiasm and knowledge of our State's activities from the wonderful experience of this week with men and boys who were learning along with him, the God given Rights of our State and Nation. If this country of ours isn't as it should be, then by all that's good and holy we should be the ones to sit and listen and maybe the youth through the splendid efforts of The American Legion and the wonderful training of Boys' State could tell us a thing or two on the way a Democracy should be and not the way it is. I am not too worried when we have such programs

(Continued on page 56)

Writers must give name and address. Name withheld if requested. So many letters are being received it is not possible to promise answers. Keep your letters short. Address: Sound Off, The American Legion Magazine, 580 Fifth Ave., New York 36, N. Y.

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written *before* it was
invented! A story of
the movie machine
that shows "newsreels" of any
past event. Plus more than a
score of other best tales from
a dozen years of Astounding
Science-Fiction Magazine by its
editor, John W. Campbell, Jr.



WORLD OUT OF MIND

by J. T. McIntosh

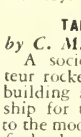
Fifty thousand crea-
tures from Outer
Space (disguised as
humans) infiltrate
Earth's society to pre-
pare the way for invasion. One
of them eventually wins the
highest office. When the in-
vading army attacks, he is
chosen to lead Earth's defense.



THE CURRENTS OF SPACE

by Isaac Asimov

500 million people
on the planet Florina
will die . . . un-
less they are
warned in time.
Only one man
can save them . . . but he
must first grow a new
memory.



TAKEOFF

by C. M. Kornbluth

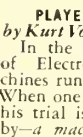
A society of amate-
ur rocket fans starts
building a "dummy"
ship for the first trip
to the moon—and then
finds clues suggesting that
construction is being paid for by
a foreign power!



THIS ISLAND EARTH

by Raymond F. Jones

You're an engineer
working on a secret
project. Your mysteri-
ous employers possess
lighter, stronger
metals and faster engines than
any known on earth. When you
try to fly away, your plane is
suddenly swallowed up in mid-
air by a GIANT FLYING
SAUCER!



PLAYER PIANO

by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

In the coming age
of Electronics, ma-
chines run everything.
When one man rebels,
his trial is conducted
by—a machine!



THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

by Ray Bradbury

The brave Earth
men triumphed over
the atom . . . mas-
tered the rocket . . .
conquered space and
reached Mars. But they were
defenseless against the Martian
weapon that made them slaves!



THE PUPPET MASTERS

by Robert A. Heinlein

A flying saucer
lands in Iowa. From
it ooze parasitic slugs
that enter men's
bodies and turn them
into mindless puppets. And
then the puppets conceal all
traces of the invasion!



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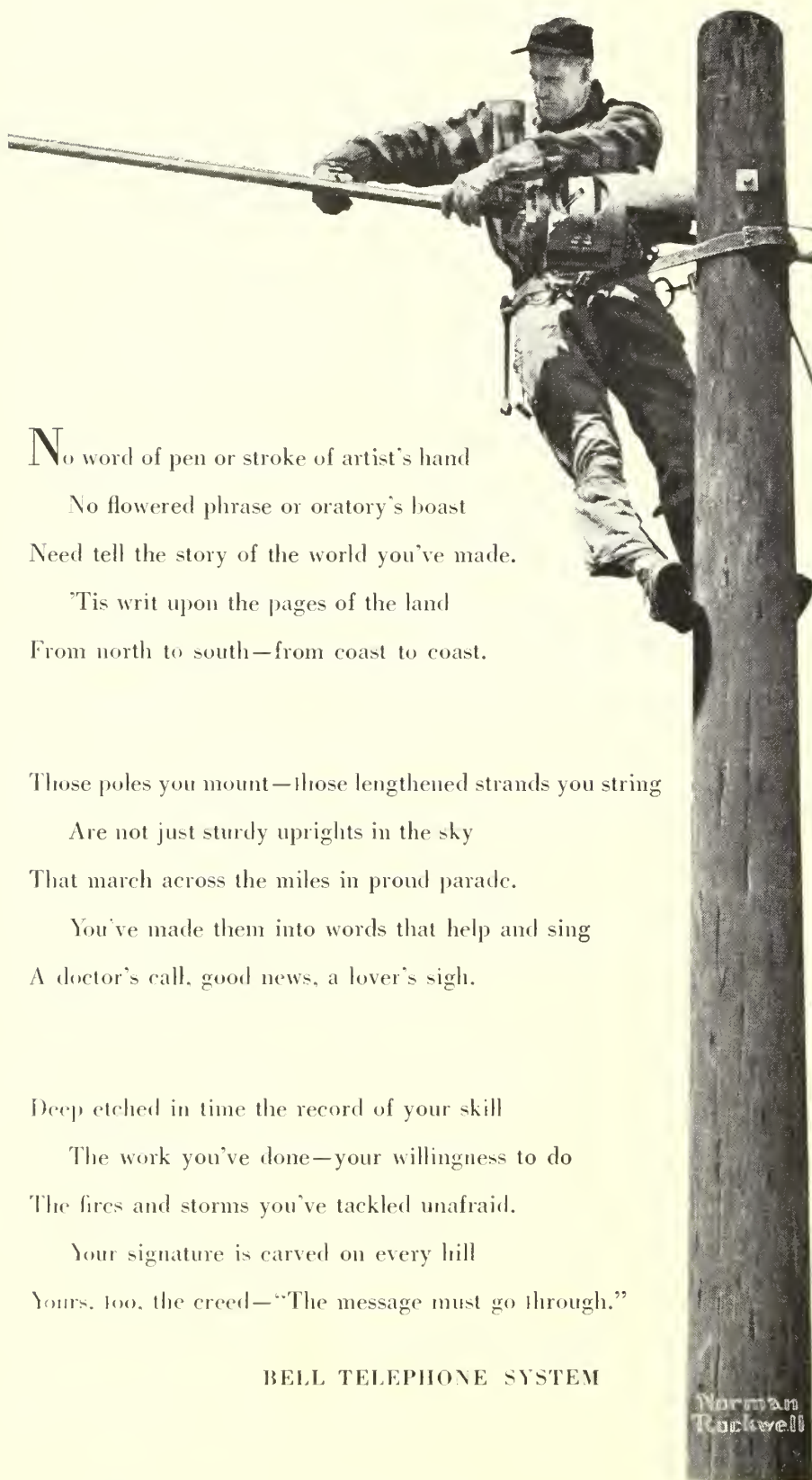
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LINES TO A LINEMAN

ILLUSTRATED BY NORMAN ROCKWELL



No word of pen or stroke of artist's hand
 No flowered phrase or oratory's boast
 Need tell the story of the world you've made.
 'Tis writ upon the pages of the land
 From north to south—from coast to coast.

Those poles you mount—those lengthened strands you string
 Are not just sturdy uprights in the sky
 That march across the miles in proud parade.
 You've made them into words that help and sing
 A doctor's call, good news, a lover's sigh.

Deep etched in time the record of your skill
 The work you've done—your willingness to do
 The fires and storms you've tackled unafraid.
 Your signature is carved on every hill
 Yours, too, the creed—"The message must go through."

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Editor's Corner



A LESSON FROM KOREA

IN *Sound Off* this month we publish a letter from a reader who is so worked up over what he calls the "reactionary tendencies" of *The American Legion* that he says he is dropping out of the organization and intends to crusade against it.

His use of the word *reactionary* intrigues us in view of the way in which it has turned up in the news from Korea. You have probably read how it is being used by our GI's being returned from communist prison camps. The great majority of these men went through hell because they refused to bow to the communists. Called "reactionaries" for their refusal to become turncoats they now take pride in the term. Understandably, they speak with contempt and loathing of the "progressives" who either fell for communist brain-washing or sold out for an easier life in prison.

Just as the Korean war taught many Americans the true meaning of communism, maybe this will teach the American people that you either fight communism or you go along with it. There is no middle ground, despite what so-called "liberals" would have you believe.

As for our critic, we'd like to offer some advice. In his crusade against "reactionaries" he had better steer clear of any men who spent time in red prison camps. At least the "reactionaries."

DEADLY PATTERN

WE ARE obliged to *The Nation*, the eggheads' bible, for presenting in horribly clear and concise fashion the program we predicted in *The Big Sellout* in this column last July. At that time we said, "You are going to be pressured into admitting Red China into the United Nations. . . ."

In an article entitled *Settlement in Asia: What the British Want*, the pattern is made clear. And if there is anything that the British are supposed to want which the Kremlin would object to, we can't think of it. Following are some quotations from the article:

"Any hope of such a program depends, of course, as all peace moves in the Pacific do, on the recognition of Peking China as a member of the United Nations."

"In any case the more quickly and graciously Mao Tse-tung is welcomed the better the chance for peace."

". . . peace with China involves trade with China."

"Clearly Britain should insist on annulling the U.N. resolution branding China as an aggressor and should at once

begin trade negotiations with China.”
“... Formosa itself must go back to Peking China as soon as the move becomes politically and diplomatically possible.”

“The first steps, therefore, are public reaffirmation of Peking’s right to Formosa and the withdrawal of America’s subsidy to all Kuomintang troops.”

“... the Voice of America, confining itself to news and the support of capitalism, would have to end its threats of war against communism. . . .”

We have never been impressed with *The Nation’s* integrity but we thought it had a little more sense than to advance such blatant propaganda just when hundreds of American GI’s, fresh from prison camps, are showing the world the kind of people the British and many of our own “liberals” want to embrace.

EXEMPLARY

THE Hun School at Princeton, N. J., is planning a program that other educators might well consider. It is designed to correct “a dangerous laissez-faire attitude in this sphere of American education,” described as followed:

1. A serious and growing decline in the study of American history.
2. A growing belief, especially among younger people, that “the world owes me a living.”
3. The marked failure of a large percentage of American citizens—and too often those with the most education—to observe either the privileges or the duties of citizenship.

To help in correcting this, the Trustees of the Hun School have drawn up plans for a course to be called Preparation for Active Citizenship. The objectives will be to turn out upwards of 125 young men (25 seniors a year) who have had special training as useful and active members of a democratic community; to perfect this course so it can be used in other secondary schools; and to train educators to head up similar courses elsewhere.

A BOOK FOR LEGIONNAIRES

TIME and again we have been asked: “Why doesn’t The American Legion get out a book containing the most important articles published in our magazine?”

We are pleased to report that, by the time you read this, such a book will be available. Titled *The American Legion Reader*, it contains not only significant articles which have appeared in our pages but plenty of entertainment features as well, written by such outstanding authors as Alexander Woolcott, John Erskine, Zane Grey, Peter B. Kyne, Paul Gallico, Clarence Budington Kelland, and others too numerous to mention.

The book is a hefty tome of more than 500 pages, edited by Victor Lasky, whose name is familiar to many of our readers. The publisher is Hawthorn Books, Inc., 70 Fifth Ave., New York City 11, and the price is \$4.95.

We believe the *Reader* to be worthy of a place in your own library, and we hope Legion Posts will obtain copies for their local school and public libraries.



Advertisement

From where I sit by Joe Marsh

It’s Fine To Be Fooled —Sometimes

Handy Peters entertained for the ladies of the Auxiliary the other night—and had the ladies believing that he’s the best marksman ever.

Handy put on a great act. He set up a whole bunch of balloons on a muslin backdrop and then took out his pea-shooter. He shot blindfolded, standing on his head, every which way—and broke a balloon every time!

No wonder Handy impressed all the ladies. What they didn’t know—till the show’s end—was that Buck Mulligan was hiding behind the backdrop improving on Handy’s aim with a sharp hatpin.

From where I sit, we all get things “put over” on us now and again. When it’s good-natured—fine! But, some folks would like to fool the rest of us into believing it’s wrong to enjoy an occasional glass of beer—just because they prefer something else. For real American tolerance and good neighborliness these people are simply way “off target.”

Joe Marsh

**"Cake"
not wood
mellows
your
smoke**

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imported briar far faster
than any pipe at any price!



The yellow in Yello-Bole is real honey—and honey cakes faster! This great Yello-Bole exclusive builds up "cake" from the first puff . . . holds the cake fast to fine imported briar. One pipeful and you're smoking cool and sweet. No break-in. No tongue sting! It's the pipe that takes the cake!

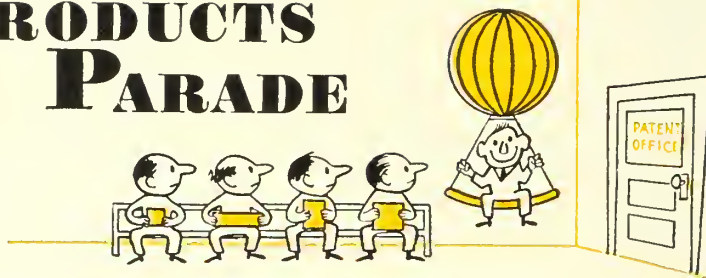
PROOF? Yello-Bole is the world's
largest selling pipe, BY FAR!

YELLO-BOLE

\$100
TO
\$250



PRODUCTS PARADE



A sampling of items which are in process of development or are coming on the market. Mention of products in no way constitutes an endorsement of them, since in most cases they are described as represented by manufacturers.

SHEET METAL FOR HOME CRAFTSMEN

Because of the increasing importance of the home craftsman in the scheme of things, more and more manufacturers are catering to his needs. Latest to join the ranks is the Illinois Zinc Co., 2959 W. 47th St., Chicago 32. This company is now offering its Eraydo Alloy sheets in a prepackaged roll for over-the-counter sale. This metal, made from high grade zinc alloyed with copper, will not rust, solders easily, and cuts and forms with simple tools. It can be used for repairs to roofs, gutters, window flashing, flower boxes, etc. The 12 by 30-inch rolls retail for \$1.00; the 12 by 60-inch rolls for \$2.00; and the 12 by 120-inch rolls for \$3.50. Available through hardware, chain and auto supply stores.



A BRUSH THAT FITS YOUR HEAD

Something new in the way of military hair brushes has been developed by Tek Hughes, of Watervliet, N. Y. To permit the brush to conform to the shape of the head, it has a slotted back which makes it readily flexible. Because of this "flex action" all the bristles can be brought into contact with the user's hair. The brushes are available in two sets, with a choice of mock tortoise shell or clear lucite. The double set retails for \$10.00 and the single set for \$5.00. There is also a club brush, with handle, which sells for \$5.00.

HAVE YOU TELEPHONITIS?

Anyone who uses a telephone extensively is likely to be intrigued by a highly versatile device just announced by Leavitt Manufacturing Co., 208 E. 25th St., New York City 10. This is a "6 in 1" Phone Secretary which does almost everything but talk. It counts the calls, provides an automatic index, has two perpetual calendars (running from 45 BC to 2099 AD), includes a "dialer" to save wear and tear on your dialing finger,

has a chained pencil and a memo pad. Made of plastic, ebony or ivory, it is easily mounted on most phones. The price is \$3.98 postpaid.

TO SWAB THAT DECK

A sponge mop of unusual design, which incorporates a built-in brush for removing stubborn dirt spots, has been announced by Buff Products Co., 200 Williams St., Port Chester, N. Y. The mop proper has twice the usual cleaning area and can be wrung thoroughly without bending by means of a rinsing bar. Sliding this forward a few inches causes the mop to be thoroughly squeezed. The brush, which has bristles of Bakelite styrene plastic, is set in the leading edge of the mop. Available in department and hardware stores, it retails for \$4.95.

NO DENTS

To keep car doors from becoming dented by slamming them into garage walls or other cars, a new car door-stop called Nev-a-Dent is being offered by Best Value Sales Co., 70 W. 39th St., New York City 18. Made of chrome and rubber, the gadget is quickly clamped on the car door at the most likely impact point. Only a screwdriver is necessary and the car is not defaced in any way. The price is a dollar a pair, postpaid.



NEW TYPE VISE

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When writing to manufacturers concerning items described here kindly mention that you read about them in The American Legion Magazine

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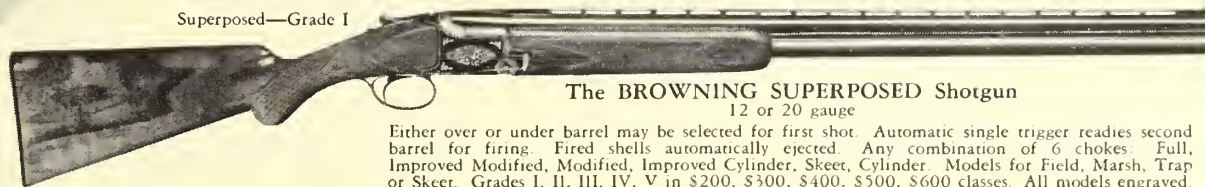
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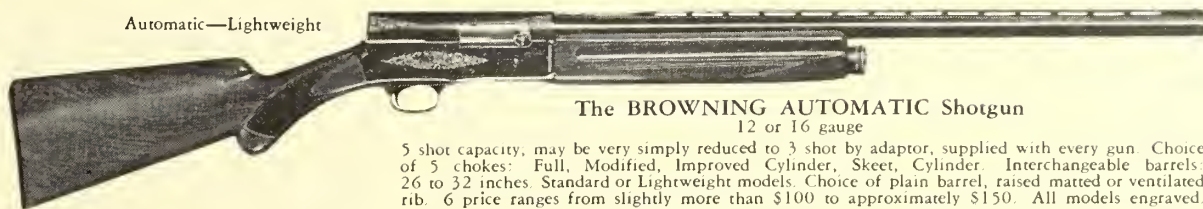
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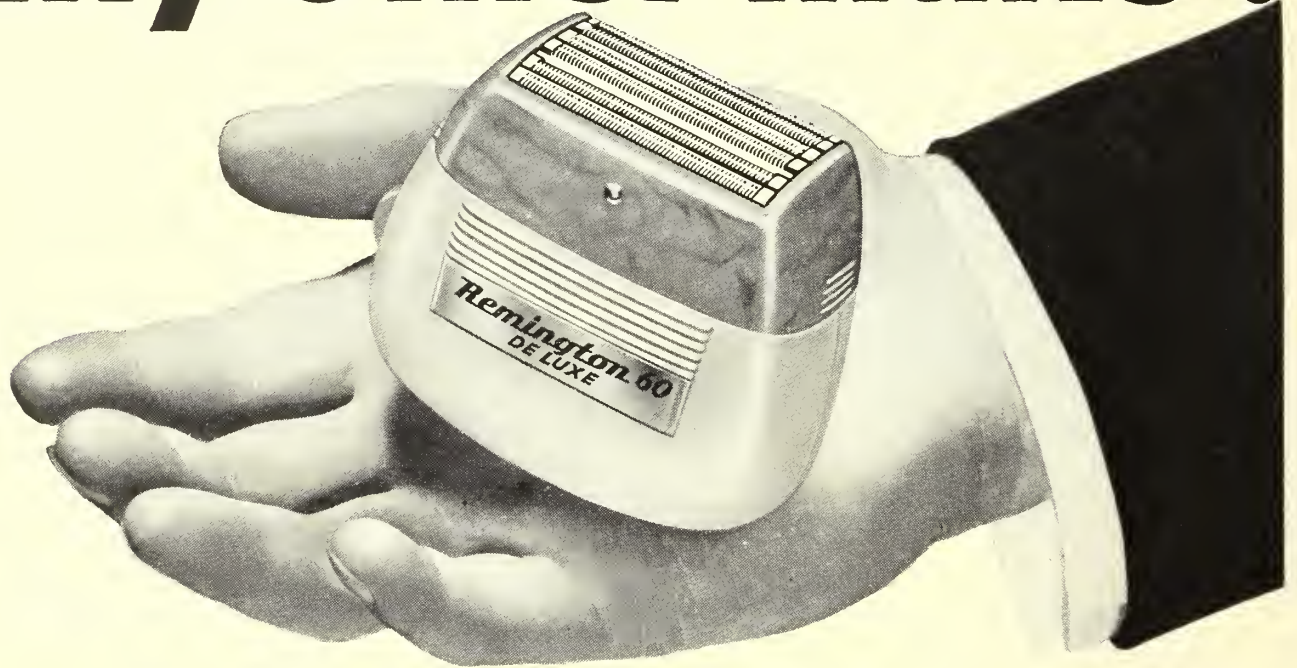
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THE **B**EAUTY AND THE **B**EASTS

The new coach had her own ideas as to why the Titans were losing. Then some changes were made.

By **LARRY SIEGEL**

The players looked at her with a dazed expression.

WHAT HAPPENED to the Wassilow Titans during the football season of '50 shouldn't happen to the Soviet Politburo, their families, and friends.

In fact, I still wake up in the middle of the night and say it was all a crazy dream—the kind you get from eating cucumbers with buttermilk chasers too close to bedtime.

But maybe I better start from the beginning.

My name is Bull Tabor, and the Titans are a semi-pro outfit in Minnesota. I've been coaching them since '40, when I had to quit playing because of a bad back.

Ernie Day, who used to own the team, and me always



Ox Folsom made a dying swan leap over the two players.

(continued)

THE BEAUTY AND THE BEASTS

agreed that there was only one way to play football. Get the biggest, strongest team around and roll over and bury the other guys. Power! Raw Power! That's what won ball games!

Bimmy Whiteside, who owned the Whittaker Whippets, had the same opinion, and it was a constant fight between us through the years to see which team had more power.

It seems that Bimmy and Ernie were always fighting. They hated each other's guts, and it started years ago when they worked in a circus together. The story goes that Bimmy stole the snake charmer from Ernie, or something, and ever since then it was murder! In fact, when Ernie bought the Titans some years later, they say that Bimmy, who was running a very profitable agency that supplied midgets and freaks to carnivals, bought the Whippets as a sideline—just to find another way to battle with Ernie.

The tricks those guys used to pull

on each other to win games were fantastic. Everything from putting gin into the other team's water buckets, to setting loose a pack of tomcats in the back yard of their hotel the night before the big game, to keep the players from getting sleep.

Well, getting back to Wassilow, nobody could make the Titans unless they were 6'3", hit 230, and were ready to shed a gallon of blood a day. When I was a player, I could never recall a greater feeling than standing in a shower at the end of the game, with blood dripping down my face, the water playing on my bruised body, and happy with the thought that two or three guys I tackled that day were in hospital wards. Get what I mean?

Well, for some horrible reason, we couldn't win a game from '46 to '49. Ernie and me went nuts. We had the power—in fact we started hiring bigger and heavier guys. We ignored anyone under 250 pounds. But nothing

worked right, and we just kept losing.

That losing streak was slowly killing Ernie, who was in his 80's at the time. Then when we lost that heart-stopper to Bimmy's Whippets in the last game of '49, the job was finished. Ernie died of a broken heart.

Several months later I got word from the team's lawyer that the old guy had willed the Titans to his only living relative, a grandkid of his named Pat Haley, from New York. They knew nothing at all about him.

In August, '50, I got a wire from this guy Haley, saying he was going to coach the team himself that year and that he'd be in Minnesota in a week. He said I'd be his assistant.

I don't have to tell you I was sore as hell, losing my job just like that. And I took it out on the team. I worked them that week like a squad of doped-up plow horses. I had them tackling and blocking until they couldn't tell themselves from the dummies. Then to cap it off, I gave them a diet of one hour head-banging sessions. It was a little skull-strengthener me and Ernie



dreamed up, whereby each player bangs helmet first into each other guy on the team.

That Friday morning before practice I had the guys in the locker room, and I started chewing them out, telling them how rusty they were, with the season less than two months off. I told them I was thinking of more scrimmages and more night practice. You can't baby these guys, I always said.

All of a sudden a slim blonde, about 25 or so, came wiggling in, as only a curvy dame can wiggle. She was something from a calendar ad—but with clothes on, of course. I might have pitched her a whistle, if I had had time for that sort of stuff.

"Is Bernard Tabor here?" She sort of tinkled like a bell.

My face turned redder than a comic convention. The last time I was called Bernard was in grammar school, and the kid who said it is still picking up teeth.

"Look, honey," I said. "I'm Tabor—Bull Tabor! If you want my autograph, you can see me later. You know that

girls aren't allowed in the locker room."

She bounced onto a bench, leaned back, smiled at me through snowy ivories, and oozed out, "A Coach's place is with the players, you know."

Sixteen A-Bombs couldn't've knocked me farther back. *This* was Pat Haley! He was a HER—not a HIM! The Titans belonged to a *dame*! I glanced at the team. They were all looking at her with the same expression. Like a hippo answering a mating call, or something.

I didn't know what to say, so I introduced her to the 14-man squad. Then I sort of stammered. "We're going to . . . to practice now. Would you like to watch?"

"That would be nice," she purred. She tinkled, she oozed, and she purred. She still didn't *talk*!

"Let's go, you guys!" I screamed. Nobody budged. "Let's go!" I roared again. They filed out in a daze, bumping into each other as they looked back at the blonde.

I was so steaming mad that I drove them through five solid hours of torture. And I ended it up with an hour head-banging session. If *that* didn't scare away the blonde nothing would.

"How'd you like it?" I asked her, when it was over.

"Interesting," she said, "but silly. Now I know why this team hasn't won for so long. We'll make a few changes tomorrow."

When I walked into the locker room the next morning Pat was standing next to me, a pen in her hand, a whistle around her neck, and she wore a sweater that would have made my 90-year-old grandfather jump up screaming. "Time for practice," she hummed.

"Look, sister," I said. "This may be *your* team, but let me remind you we play football, not canasta. You got to sweat and bleed to win in this sport."

"Nobody's been sweating or bleeding for the past four years," she said sweetly.

Why try to reason with a dame? I turned and walked out in disgust.

I didn't intend to return until 2:00 to supervise the "light workout with a football." But curiosity got me back in two hours.

As I headed for the gym, I spotted something too horrible to describe, in the hall. It looked like the twin sister of Jugger Callahan, the 270-pound full-back—if he *had* a twin sister. Whatever it was, it was wearing those tights you see on long-hair dancers in the movies.

"Hya, Bull!" a foghorn voice said. I opened my eyes. It was *Jugger*.

"What the hell are you doing in those things?" I asked.

"Coach's idea," he said, smiling. "We're taking dancing lessons inside now."

"Why not?" I said. "How else do you prepare for a back-breaking sched-

ule with nine powerful teams? You go to Arthur Murray's."

"Aw, Bull," he said, "don't make fun of her; give her a chance. Hey, you know something—she's the prettiest dame I ever saw. All the guys are whacky about her. But I'll tell you a secret. She's stuck on yours truly."

"How can she help herself?" I said sarcastically. "And how was the lecture on field etiquette and psychology?"

"Great!" he said. "All we did was lay on the grass and look at her luscious body, while she stood and talked. She don't know fundamentals, but she got some sensible ideas about this game. She says we've been playing together long enough so we don't have to waste time going through plays and that sort of stuff. She says the reason we get hurt sometimes on the field and hurt other guys is because we're not nice. She says you can win and be nice at the same time—the way God wanted us to be. She also says we're sloppy and clumsy, and we got no rhythm."

"Then she said we need music because it's good for our souls. Last of all, she told us, the coach—meaning you, Bull—has been mean as hell to us, and that what we really need is love and the feeling that we belong. She makes sense! No coach I ever been with ever showed me love. They always yell and curse at me. I'm a sensitive guy, Bull. All of us players are."

"Jugger," I said, "you're in the wrong racket."

We stepped into the gym, and if I live to see a Martian, I'll never forget that horrible sight. The whole team was dressed like Jugger, in tights. Some of them looked worse than him—if that was possible. A guy was playing the piano, and the blonde was making like a chorus line director you see in those B films about show business.

She was crying, "One, two, three, kick!" and close to two tons of happy beef was pounding the floor in size 14 shoes, and sounding like a herd of buffalos. Could you imagine strong men being paid to make like bulldozers, spinning and dancing like king-size Fred Astaires? I couldn't take any more and ran out.

Those next few weeks were right out of Olsen and Johnson. There was dancing, music, merry-making, happy question-and-answer periods, and exciting lectures on why every week should be "Be Kind to Enemy Players Week."

Every once in a while I'd get a chance to run the squad through plays. Once she even let me stage a real scrimmage. But she cut it short, and you know why? Because Cy Bigelow, the undernourished 280-pound guard, drew blood from his thumb making a nasty tackle.

(Continued on page 59)

SECOND CHANCE IN GERMANY

Our postwar policies in Germany almost threw the entire country to Soviet Russia. Today that danger is less, but it still exists.

By **FREDA UTLEY**

THE JUNE 17 revolt of the East Germans not only electrified the world by demonstrating that the flame of liberty has not been extinguished behind the Iron Curtain. It also offered us both a lesson and an opportunity which we shall ignore at our peril. Should we fail fundamentally to revise our attitude toward the German people we shall not only miss an opportunity which is unlikely to recur to enlist our former enemies as our most resolute allies in the liberation and defense of Europe. We shall also enable Moscow to turn its present weakness to its ultimate advantage.

Either the Kremlin will drown the rebellion in blood while we watch from the sidelines and refuse to give either moral support or material aid to the unarmed Germans who are heroically defying the Soviet power. Or the Soviet government will make a virtue of necessity by letting the East Germans go free, and reunite with their Western countrymen on conditions unfavorable to us but attractive to the whole German people. Thus although it may sound paradoxical, it would also be logical, if the revolt in East Germany were to lead not to the strengthening of the West but to its further weakening. This outcome can be avoided only if the United States has the moral courage, intelligence and resolution to re-examine the assumptions on which our German policy has been based.

We have traveled a long way on the road back to sanity

Often motivated by a desire for revenge rather than justice, the trials at Nuremberg played right into the hands of the Kremlin.



since 1945 when we tore Germany apart, handed over millions of people to communist tyranny and, for a while, emulated the communists in our brutal and stupid treatment of the disarmed and defenseless Germans. But even today the remnants of the Morgenthau outlook, combined with French intransigence and the British desire to eliminate Germany as an industrial competitor, severely hamper us in the implementation of a sane European policy.

We are continuing to deny to "our Germans" either an equal status with our other allies in NATO, or freedom to manage their own internal affairs. While insisting that they supply soldiers to a European Defense Community as the price for their liberation from the status of a defeated enemy nation, we are doing nothing effective to force the French to ratify the treaties signed in Bonn in May 1952, and ratified by the Bonn Parliament in spite of the socialists and others who consider that the sacrifices they entail for Germany are too great to be borne. Not only are we continuing to insist that the West German government abandon all hope of liberating the East Germans by signing up with us. The Bonn Treaties also provide for the retention, by the British and ourselves, of the "Conqueror's Rights" which we acquired as allies of Soviet Russia. The Germans are obligated to continue providing the amenities and luxuries to which our occupation forces have been accustomed, although we are now supposed to be the defenders

of Europe instead of the conquerors of Germany. Worst of all, from the German point of view, is the fact that the "Contractual Agreement" designed to take the place of a Peace Treaty, provides for the continuation of our "decartelization" and "decentralization" decrees which insure maximum production costs in the German coal, iron, steel, and chemical industries to the advantage of Britain's socialized heavy industries, and France's cartels.

Thanks to the prejudiced, or uninformed, reporting of our press, the American public has been led to believe that we have been very generous in our treatment of Germany. Few Americans are aware that West Germany has received far less Marshall Plan, or E.D.C., aid than she has paid out in occupation costs. Or that today while entirely deprived of American aid she is contributing nearly 2 billion dollars a year in occupation costs.

The fact that our treatment of the Germans since



Hurling rocks at Russian tanks, these Germans in East Berlin showed their hatred of communism in demonstrations on June 18.



This burning building in East Berlin offered further proof that communism had failed to subjugate the Germans.

1948-49 has shown a vast improvement should not cause us to forget that we still have a long way to go before we can count upon the Germans stopping their ears to the siren call of Moscow, now that the Kremlin is obviously seeking to win by guile the victory which her display of naked force has failed so far to win for her.

We can thank providence that we stopped short of implementing the policy agreed upon at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam. But one has only to remember the Morgenthau Plan with its prescription for the "pastoralization" of Germany agreed upon at the September 1944 Quebec Conference, to realize how near we came to complete disaster. Had this infamous plan, which would have entailed the death by starvation of at least a third of the German people, been carried out, there is no doubt that the Germans, in despair, would have been driven into Moscow's



Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, who saw where our policy was leading us.

arms. This is what the author of the plan, the late, unlamented Harry Dexter White must have intended. Fortunately, the humanity of the American people, and the return of a degree of common sense to Washington, prevented the implementation of the colossal act of genocide contemplated by Roosevelt and Churchill in 1944. Nevertheless, we went perilously far along the communist-Morgenthau line with the Joint Chiefs of Staff Order 1067 which laid down the rules to be followed by our occupation forces.

Lest we forget, or never knew, how near we came to emulating the communists in our treatment of the Germans it is necessary to recapitulate some of the things we did ourselves, and the worse crimes we permitted to our allies, in the era when justice and mercy were regarded as a sign of "fascist" or reactionary sympathies.

(Continued on page 45)

HOW WE HELPED RUSSIA BUILD HER WAR MACHINE

This equipment to make torpedoes, from a factory in the U.S. Zone of Germany, was shipped to Russia, compliments of the Potsdam Treaty.



Another communist leader, Tito, benefited by getting machinery like this from the Krupp works.



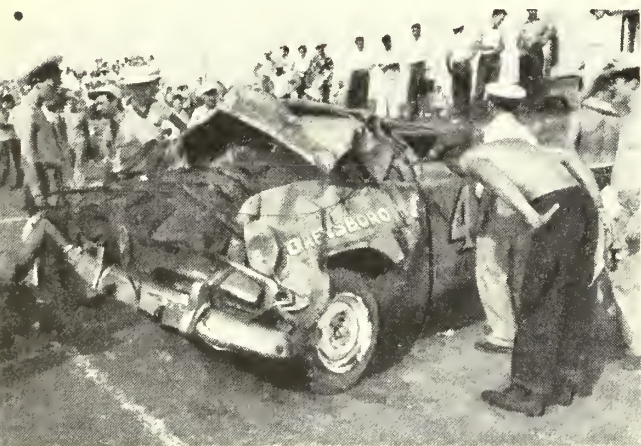
STOCK CAR RACING



Roll bars protect racing drivers, who feel they should be built into cars for everyday use.



Protection: After rolling down an embankment, this car has just a dent in the roof. Below is another stocker that had no roll bar. It's a little flat on top!



Dual carburetors are one reason for Hudson's domination of stock racing. They're available to the public.



Fans argue about racing's contribution to automobile engineering, but they agree on the spectacle's appeal as a sport.

By JAMES C. JONES

TWENTY-SIX of the country's better stock car racing drivers stood in the pits of Powell Speedway outside of Columbus, Ohio, one soggy day last spring and watched uneasily as stock car racing champion Tim Flock roared down the straightaway. His Hudson Hornet crossed the starting line not much more quietly than a jet fighter breaking the sound barrier. Flock rounded the wet half-mile oval in the relatively slow qualifying time of 30.17 seconds. Other drivers clustered around expectantly as Flock pulled into the pits.

"How did it go?" one of them asked. Had the people in the stands—thousands of fans who had ignored storm warnings to watch the upcoming spectacle—heard the question, they might have assumed the driver was referring to what seemed to be a dangerously slick track. Not so. This driver's solicitous query was directed, instead, to a four-month-old ringtail monkey named Jocko. Jocko, sitting in a specially constructed seat, had just taken his maiden cruise around one of the hundreds of auto race tracks in the country.

"Well," the Georgian remarked drily, "he'll get used to it."

The monkey at the moment was chattering deliriously and holding his safety belt with the grip of a gorilla. Jocko got used to it sooner than even Flock expected. The race had gone no more than 20 laps when Jocko was sound asleep—bored, no doubt, by the unchanging scenery.

This zany twist is only one small incident contributing to the tremendous expansion of stock car racing in recent years. Few American sports have been in and out of favor as frequently as this one, which now is enjoying its most prosperous revival. While accurate estimates are hard to come by, reasonable expectations are that over 40,000,000 people will pay upward of \$75,000,000 this year to watch all types of traffic roar down the straightaway and turn left. It makes auto racing the fourth largest sport in the nation in paid attendance.

Just how large a share of the total audience and gate receipts the strictly stock car races attract is not known, since many are promoted by organizations which do not make reports public. Indicative, however, of stock racing's startling growth are figures

Tricks of the trade: Door clamps and quick refueling will never be used off the track, but they can mean the difference between winning and losing race





A hot summer's day takes its toll of cars like this "steamer" at Langhorne, Pa. track.

from the annual reports of NASCAR (breath-saving abbreviation for National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc.). This biggest of all groups sanctioning stock car races staged 87 races on 25 tracks in 1949 and the purse total ran slightly over \$181,000. Figures doubled and redoubled annually, so that last year, more than 2,500,000 people watched 1,029 races on 93 tracks for an aggregate purse of more than \$1,200,000. From an attendance standpoint, that marked a 250 percent increase in only two years.

The American Automobile Association, which until recently had shied away from modern stock car racing, ran only 14 stock championship events but drew over 200,000 spectators, nearly 400 percent over 1951, when AAA sanctioned only three events. Of all races AAA sanctions, stock car events are showing the greatest gain in popularity and attendance.

Reasons for the upsurge of interest are plentiful. Fans are drawn to this type of racing for the same reason that they attend any auto race: They thrill to the sight of drivers fighting it out at dangerously high speeds. Blood is a corollary source of fascination. It has the same magnetic power

that pulls fight fans into arenas, the same attraction that draws people to bull fights.

But there is another more important factor which is not so apparent in other sports. That is "spectator identification." People can see, in effect, how the family car will stack up against those of their neighbors.

Drivers themselves are still another attraction. Fans develop such intense loyalties toward one driver or another that they often travel thousands of miles a year in order to follow at first hand the exploits of their favorites. That is one reason why Tim Flock, NASCAR's 1952 national champion, and other drivers go to such extremes as carting around a monkey. If Flock's friend Jocko can stand the pace, his name likely will become as famous around racing circuits as the names of noted drivers.

Now in its 58th year, the sport has been a part of the national scene practically as long as have cars themselves. The first American stock race was held on November 28, 1895, only three years after Charles E. Duryea, with the help of his brother, J. Franklin, built the first gasoline-engine-driven motor vehicle made in America. It was a one-cylinder "Buggyaut." On that Thanksgiving Day three years later, Frank Duryea entered a Duryea Motor Road Wagon in a race staged by the *Chicago Times-Herald*.

The turn-of-the-century races mark the earliest beginnings of stock car racing. Anyone then able to tool one of the horseless carriages down the washboard pike was considered something of a sport, since it was a risky, bone-rattling experience. Informal rivalries gradually developed into formal contests which outlasted the fad stage as the auto itself outlasted the horse and buggy.

Manufacturers, as much as anyone, sparked racing competition. Racing was, after all, one of the best of all ways to get a car before the public in order to spur sales. Henry Ford used this (Continued on page 51)

PHOTOS BY DONATO LEO

It isn't pretty, but the mesh protects lights, radiator and engine from track debris.





WHAT UNCLE SAM DOES FOR

Those they left behind

North Carolina found 3,000 vets' widows, orphans, parents with benefits due.

By **SAM STAVISKY**

IN NORTH CAROLINA, an aging widow of a lighthouse keeper was being interviewed by a state veterans service officer. She was in dire need of help, and the service officer hoped she might be entitled to a pension as the needy widow of a veteran. But no, she said, her husband had not served in uniform.

It looked like a case for the county home, but the service officer was gently persistent, and soon discovered that the widow had had a son who 32 years before had died on a battlefield in France.

"You are entitled to Federal payment of \$60 a month as a dependent parent of a veteran who died of service-connected causes," the service officer told the incredulous woman.

The widow protested, "I wouldn't want to tell no lies," she said, "I never depended on my boy. He depended on Dad and me. We always made out, Dad and me, but since Dad died five years ago. . ."

"But you're in need now," the service officer patiently explained. "If your boy were alive, he'd be a man of 55, and you could rightfully turn to him for help. . ."

Today, the monthly payments permit the widow to remain in her home for the declining years of her life.

She is but one of the nearly 3,000 beneficiaries—widows, orphans and dependent parents—uncovered in a two-year survey conducted by the North Carolina Veterans Commission to seek out veterans' survivors who were unaware that they rated, as a right, monthly cash benefits under the Federal laws.

If North Carolina is typical, a similar two-year drive across the nation would uncover approximately 110,000 other surviving dependents of veterans who do not know or realize they are entitled to monthly payments from a grateful Uncle Sam.

The Carolina crusade was initiated by James M. Caldwell, state veterans commission director and former Legion state adjutant, and Burt Edmundson, his assistant. They were amazed to discover the comparatively large number of worthy, eligible beneficiaries unaware of their right to help. Many of them never would have known of their entitlement if the service officers hadn't sought them out. One district service officer, who at first feared that the survey would be a waste of time and effort, eventually turned up the most claimants, some five hundred surviving dependents.

The campaign in Carolina was no hit or miss affair. The drive was publicized by press, radio, word of mouth. Service officers of the Legion and other vet groups joined the crusade along with the service officers of the state's thirteen vets' service districts. An attempt was made to check up on every home of every deceased veteran in the state. Postmasters and rural mail carriers were alike checked; undertakers were questioned. Then, as each case unfolded, the service officers applied to it their investigative training and expert knowledge of the highly complex field of veterans rights and benefits.

It is not surprising that many veterans' survivors who are eligible for benefits do not know it. Congress is in a continuous process of changing, refining and extending the laws pertaining to veterans rights and privileges. Only specialists in the field can hope to keep abreast of the statutes, regulations, and procedures involving vet benefits.

If a deceased veteran's widow, orphan, or dependent parent has any reason to believe he has a claim to any benefits, his wisest course of action would be to contact a Legion service officer—or any officer of the Legion or Auxiliary. The

Legion service officer is prepared to provide expert assistance in advising if one may have a claim and trying to establish it if so. The service is free.

Listed briefly below are some of the chief benefits that have meaning to veterans' survivors, followed by some enlargement on each. (Where the term "orphan" is used, it may apply, for these purposes, to the child of a deceased veteran whose mother is still living.)

1. *Compensation for veterans' widows and orphans.* Monthly payments. Payable without regard to other income. Death of veteran must be shown to be related to military service causes. Rules same for all wars.

2. *Compensation for dependent parents of deceased veterans.* Monthly payments. Dependency and need of parent(s) must be shown. Service-connected death of veteran must be shown.

3. *Pensions for veterans' widows and orphans.** Monthly payments. It is *not* necessary to show service-connected death of veteran. In cases related to WW1, WW2 and Korea, survivors' need must be shown in terms of *limited other income*. These pension rules differ, depending on what war veteran served in; WW2 and K-veterans must have had a service-connected disability, however minor, at death.

4. *Veterans gov't insurance.* Payable to beneficiary of record, but complex rules and complex individual conditions often cause difficulties. If insurance is not easily collectible, policy and facts should be reviewed with a Legion service officer. The three general classes of

*The very important difference between compensation and pension is that compensation relates to death or disability that is service-connected. Pension pertains to so-called non-service-connected death or disability.



STANDARD OIL CO. (N. J.)

insurance are: U. S. Government Life, National Service Life and Servicemen's Indemnity.

5. *Military pay.* Payable to veterans' beneficiary for six months after serviceman dies on active duty. This is termed "death gratuity."

6. *Social Security.* Monthly payments and small lump sum. Not elaborated in this article. If any deceased person had a Social Security number, or active WW2 or Korean service regardless of the issuance of a Social Security number, next of kin should report death and Social Security number, if any, of deceased to nearest Social Security office and ask for accounting.

7. *Civil Service job preference* for some widows and mothers of deceased vets.

8. *GI-type business and home loans* for WW2 and Korea widows, and preference in some Dep't of Agriculture farm purchase and farm equipment loans—if vet's death was service-connected, and he had not exhausted loan privilege himself. Rules, qualifications and obligations same as would apply to vet himself.

9. *Burial rights* in national cemeteries, for vets, their widows and, under certain conditions, orphans.

10. *Various scholarships* for veterans' children. Available from many sources. Not further elaborated here. For guide write Legion Nat'l Child Welfare, Legion Nat'l Hq., P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind.

11. *VA guardianship* of benefits of minors and incompetents.

12. *Emergency help for vet families* in dire straits, with children involved, from Legion Child Welfare. A Legion, not a gov't, aid. Start inquiry at Legion Post. Temporary aid to hold family together in crisis where case is meritorious, and Legion Post counsels and steers toward long-range readjustment.

13. *Local Legion resources.* Many (not all) Legion state, county and post organizations maintain resources for general or specific types of aid for veterans and their families in distress. State the problem to Legion Post.

Those are the chief benefits for veterans families. To fit individual cases to benefits, consult local Legion service officers for info, advice, development of claims. The Legion department service officer will be most helpful in these cases. *Do not write this magazine.* Sound individual counsel is not possible without close personal contact.

However, for a better appraisal, compensation, pensions and insurance are enlarged upon here for general guidance.

Compensation for widows and orphans.

Today there are 111,000 widows and 157,000 orphans—mostly WW2 cases—drawing compensation. Monthly compensation payments to all survivors of deceased veterans average \$79.64. In each instance, the VA has been satisfied that military service contributed to the death of the veteran, whether he died

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SURVIVORS' BENEFITS FOR VETERANS' WIDOWS, ORPHANS AND PARENTS

There are many benefits and aids available to vets' widows and orphans, some for vets' parents.

Thousands of veterans' survivors don't know of the benefits, or wrongly disqualify themselves.

The government is tough in demanding that claims be proved within scope of laws and regulations.

But the government is reasonable and generous—gives benefit of doubt—when claims fit the law.

There are thousands of veterans' service officers to help establish claims according to law.

in service or afterward. Death while in service is, in all but a very few cases, satisfactory service-connection. There is no difference in VA compensation eligibility, or in payments, caused by either the rank of the veteran while in service or the war in which he served. Such awards are not to be confused with military retirement pay or Federal Employees' Compensation cases. Compensation related to military service during peacetime is, however, paid at 80% of wartime service rates. Even here, if death is caused by "peacetime armed conflict" (such as Korea), or extra-hazardous duty, the wartime rates prevail.

If a widow or orphan is otherwise eligible for *compensation*, his or her other income is *not* a factor.

There are two chief factors involved in proving that compensation is due. They are:

1. That the veteran's death was actually service-connected, and

2. That the survivor is an eligible person to collect the compensation.

Both areas of proof are hemmed in by regulations and laws, and may need painstaking development by Legion service officers.

Proving service connected death can become vastly complex.

In the North Carolina drive the biggest claim established goes to a mother of six children whose WW2 vet husband died of service-aggravated tuberculosis. She had been living on relief, charity and neighborly help. She now draws compensation of \$121 a month for herself and one child and \$29 a month for each of her other five children.

(Continued on page 40)



Your pictures come back ready for viewing.

By FRANK RIZZATTI

ALMOST EVERYONE by now has seen 3-D motion pictures, and if the pictures are not perfect they are at least impressive in the way they seem to convert the movie screen into a stage with living people playing their roles. On the face of it you might think that the making of such pictures is only for highly trained technicians. With motion pictures this is so. However, there is a different story when it comes to three-dimensional still pictures. Here the procedure is so simple that anyone who can handle a box brownie can get excellent results right from the start.

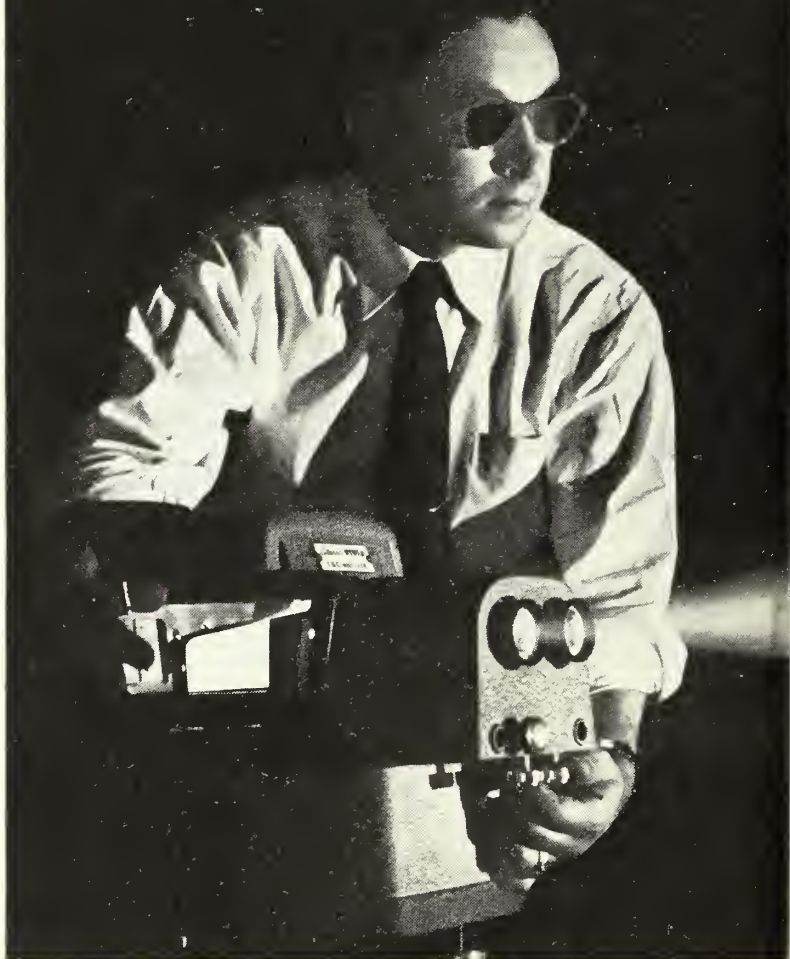
As in the early days of photography, it's a simple matter of "You press the button, we do the rest." You load a stereo camera with color film, snap the pictures as though you were using a conventional camera, and send the film to be processed. You get back a set of transparencies which, seen in a hand viewer or projected, invariably bring "oh's" and "ah's."

In case you think that all this is a step backward into the era when Grandpa looked at pictures of Niagara Falls and Grant's Tomb through a stereoscope, there are two significant differences. One is that today *you* are the photographer, able to record in three dimensions people and scenes dear to *you*. The second notable difference is that you get your pictures not only "in the round" but in their natural colors as well.

Because of this and the ease with which such pictures can be made, stereo photography is having a phenomenal growth. Even though stereo cameras are not cheap there are approximately 100,000 in use, all of them produced within the past five years, and new lines are rapidly coming on the market. An even faster growth is indicated now that the Eastman Kodak Company has entered the field in earnest. Now it is no longer necessary to mount the twin pictures in special frames; the work is done for you at the laboratory at nominal cost.

How do you take pictures with stereo cameras? It's really simpler than with conventional cameras and with fewer "don't's," besides. Granting the necessity of reasonably good exposure in any picture it is hardly possible to take a truly bad or uninteresting stereo picture. What you see, you get. You can tilt the camera up or down, with even more freedom than you dare do with an ordinary camera. If you take a picture of a skyscraper by pointing the camera upwards, it will look perfectly natural on viewing. Indeed you may even find yourself tilting the viewer upwards so that you can look up at the building as you would if you were looking at the original itself. Stereo offers realism plus. Action pictures, taken at the correct instant, deliver an impact hardly possible with the ordinary drugstore print. Although it has been said that you cannot have your cake and

How to make



This "two-eyed" projector for stereo provides a spectacular show. Polaroid glasses, familiar to movie-goers, are needed.

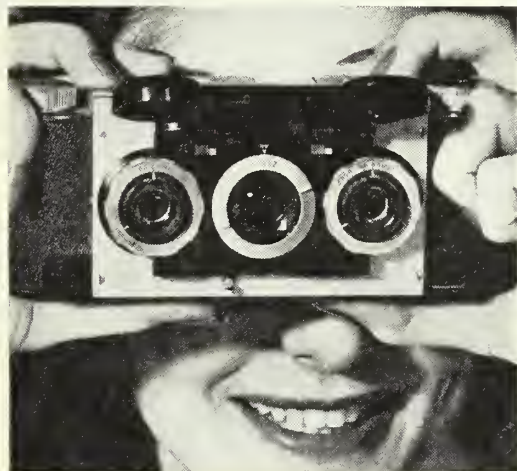
eat it too, perhaps the nearest thing to it can be had through natural color stereo photography. Your wife will change but her stereo portrait will make her seem as young and pretty twenty years hence as she was when you took the picture. If she doesn't appear so to you, it will be because you or your eyesight have changed, not the picture. Pets have comparatively short lives but you will be able to record their likenesses with such fidelity that your children and you will be completely reminded of them when memory fails.

Distant scenes can be recorded but it is interesting to note that the true stereo effect for both you and the camera exists to a distance of perhaps a quarter of a mile. After that there will be no apparent difference between the stereo slide and an ordinary two-dimensional transparency. This is due to the short distance between the eyes and that between the lenses on the camera. Of course, other factors take over when stereopsis leaves off and the scene which looks good to the eye will appear exactly the same in the viewer.

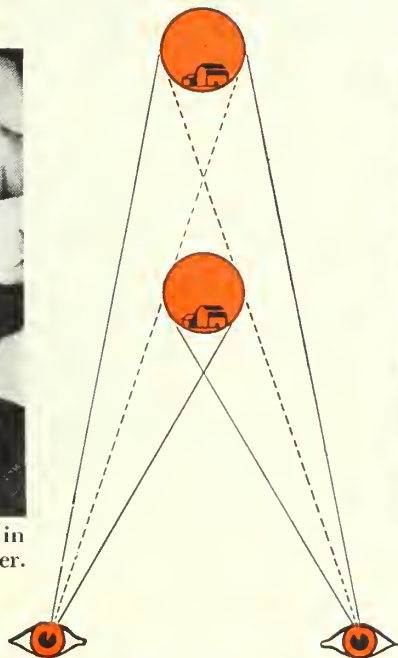
Experts have taken pictures of distant scenes first with the left side of the camera, moving it laterally to the right, and then with the right side of the camera. This is rather difficult since each lens must be capped alternately and the camera moved along in such a manner as to provide the same base line for the pictures. The results are startling when the right conditions are encountered and well worth the trouble to some people. In fact, aerial mapping cameras utilize the very same principle, taking first one picture and

STANDOUT PICTURES

Stereo photography is fast becoming a national craze as amateurs learn how easy it is to add a new dimension to pictures.

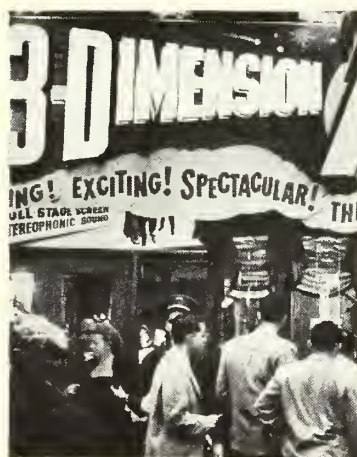


The camera has two "taking" lenses. The lens in the center of this Stereo-Realist is the finder.



THE 3-D PRINCIPLE

Left eye sees around to left and right eye sees more of right side of objects.



Interest was fanned by the flood of 3-D motion pictures.



Hand viewers such as this Revere are usually employed. Illumination is by a self-contained lighting unit.

then the other after the plane has advanced to another position. Even though such pictures are taken from a great height, the method is so accurate that camouflaged positions can usually be detected in war time.

Medium and close distance shots are perhaps most successful after all, since the true stereo effect is readily apparent and the objects are close enough to enable us to distinguish even the finer details. While you can tilt the camera up or down freely, it is necessary that it be held level from side to side. A good tripod is not essential but it contributes considerably to the overall sharpness of the pictures. Sharpness throughout each plane in the picture is highly desirable. Seek to get as much sharpness as the light conditions will allow. A truly fine stereo shot will be one that is sharp all over, permitting the eye to wander contentedly over all parts of the scene. Fortunately, the short focal length of the lenses used on today's cameras practically guarantees great depth of field. Use of a good meter will take the guesswork out of exposure, just as it does in ordinary photography.

Seasoned stereo enthusiasts often include as many objects in different planes as circumstances will permit. This enhances the stereo effect, since the size and relative position of each object can more fully be appreciated. Bright, cheerful colors, such as yellow, seem to heighten the 3-D effect.

Portraits are a delight in stereo. Hardly any of the things which have a deleterious effect in the ordinary two-dimen-

sional photograph need be avoided. Indeed, the very opposite seems often true. Distracting or blotchy backgrounds, pictures where the subject's face blends into other, more distant objects, are no longer taboo. Even those classic situations, which in two-dimensional photography result in pictures where unsightly objects seemingly grow out of the subject's head turn out perfectly natural. In the stereo photography each object assumes its correct position automatically. The three-dimensional viewer is a true interpreter of the scene. Skilled two-dimensional photographers avoid taking pictures of portrait subjects when parts of the body extend toward the camera. The stereo photographer is likely to include an extended arm, when it comes naturally. The two-dimensional photographer tries to arrange his groups within one or two planes. The 3-D man takes his group as he finds it. All this adds up to increased realism and a livelier set of pictures.

Very-close-up pictures can be taken but it will be necessary to choose a camera angle that does not include anything very distant in the background. Accessory lenses for some of the cameras are available which include built-in prisms so that the camera can simulate the natural toeing-in of the eyes at close distances.

Flash pictures are easily made with each of these cameras. An unfortunate effect, called "Pink Eye," has occasionally been noted. It has been diagnosed as a reflection of the back of the eye through the pupil and (Continued on page 53)



Things grow big in Texas. Note the ears, long legs on this black-tailed rabbit of the Lone Star State.



White-tailed jack rabbit of the Plains States. He gets quite comfy under a blanket of a foot or two of snow.



Smallest member of the American rabbit family is the mountain rabbit, or Pika, found in the Rockies.

FIRST *in the* HEARTS OF HUNTSMEN



Thoughts of hasenpfeffer are behind those smiles as hunters compare bags of cottontails.

This year 50,000,000 rabbits will be bagged by American hunters, but there will be just as many next year to provide sport and meat for the table.

By **JIM HURLEY**

IF THE AMERICAN Indian could in some miraculous manner be restored to this continent in his numbers of Capt. John Smith's day, his biggest cause for wonder wouldn't be the Empire State Building, the super-heroic carvings on Mount Rushmore, or the Grand Coulee dam, but rather the enormous increase of some of the game he hunted.

He would note everywhere the tremendous number of deer which, in his day of 300 years ago, didn't total, the whole continent over, as many as are to be found today in some of our big game-producing States such as Pennsylvania and Michigan.

But if Poor Lo would be amazed at the increase in our deer population he'd be absolutely flabbergasted by the way a much smaller animal now overruns the land. That would be the rabbit, as he is

generally and often incorrectly termed, the most hunted quarry in the United States, the one that burns up more ammunition and puts more game meat on the American table than any other wild creature.

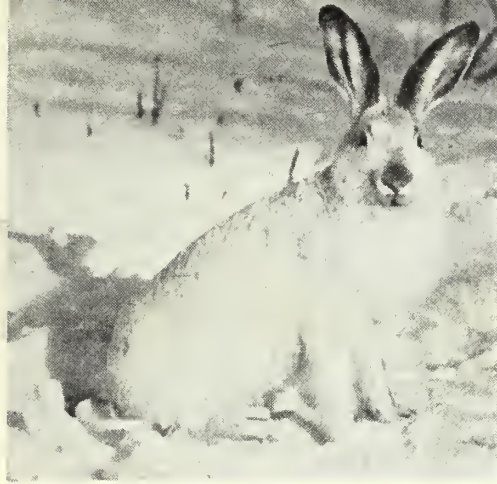
Gifted by nature with an extraordinary capacity to reproduce its own kind, brother rabbit is ideally equipped to combat its natural enemies—disease and predators—to which he is prey, as well as the pressure from millions of hunters. The rabbit has attained number one status in population and popularity while many other creatures that the Indian knew, such as the passenger pigeon, heath hen, bison and wild tur-

key have been wiped out or nearly so.

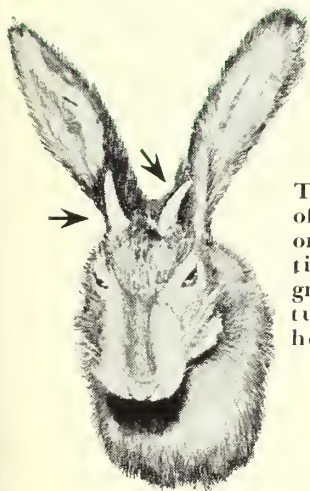
Probably the next biggest factor in the tremendous population increase of the bunny is the white man. Leveling great forest areas, bringing fertility to hitherto dry spaces of great area, he made this an ideal, happy feeding-ground for the rabbit.

Members of the rabbit family in our country include many species, among them the snowshoe rabbit and the jack-rabbit, neither of which is a rabbit at all, but a hare. Far and away the most common variety is the cottontail, which under many names ranges from ocean to ocean and from Canada to northern South America. In the western mountain area he is known as the Rocky Mountain rabbit or pika, which is only eight to ten inches in length full grown, and on the West Coast there is the Western cottontail. Then there is the "horned" rabbit. A virus infection some-

Picture credits: Black-tailed jack rabbit, white tail, prairie hare, National Audubon Society; by Karl L. Maslowski, Wilford L. Miller and H. H. Pittman. Pika rabbit, State of Colorado; hunting pictures, Monkmeier; horned rabbit, Jim Hurley.



This is the prairie hare or jack rabbit of the West. Its pelage changes to white in winter; all except the ear edges.



The horned rabbit is often a fake, but this one isn't. Virus infections often cause growth of bony protuberances where horns should be.



Snowshoe rabbit is called varying hare because it turns color in winter to match the snow. Its large paws enable it to stay atop snow as snowshoes aid humans.

times puts tiny bone growths on a rabbit's skeleton, and occasionally these freak outcroppings appear where horns might be expected to be found.

The cottontail's four litters a year, with an average of four to the litter, make it an unmatched producer. The overwhelming choice of the hunters, the cottontail in the first cool days of September or in the frosts of early fall (depending on when the law lifts) will become the quarry of 14 million licensed hunters. Millions of additional sportsmen will be shooting rabbits on their own land, and so won't require a license. In all, the hunters will bag 50 million rabbits. Despite this toll, plus disease and the fact that millions of the elusive creatures are killed by autos on the highway each year and other millions are slain by larger and stronger animals, there is no rabbit shortage.

Rabbit hunting has gained this popu-

larity because the hunter rarely fails to bag at least one bunny, and more people in every State fire at him than at any other kind of game. The rabbit is an animal of the farming country and probably he is hunted more by people who just stumble around trying to kick him out than by those seeking him in any other manner. No one reaches the heights of rabbit hunting, however, until he works with dogs. The universal arm in rabbit hunting is the shotgun, varying in gauge and size of shot according to the section of the country, the presence of other game and the economic status of the owner. In duck country and where a hunter can have but one gun, most often it's a 12-gauge, powered with four or six shot. Elsewhere it could be a 16 or even a 20 with sevens.

In the field the cottontail often proves that he's as wary as he is wily. He knows the value of standing still. Many a hunter has almost stepped on a bunny well hidden by its protective coloration. The rabbit, scared into action, is deceptively fast for its first few strides or hops, and his broken field running would be a thing of joy to a football coach. To those who hunt him by

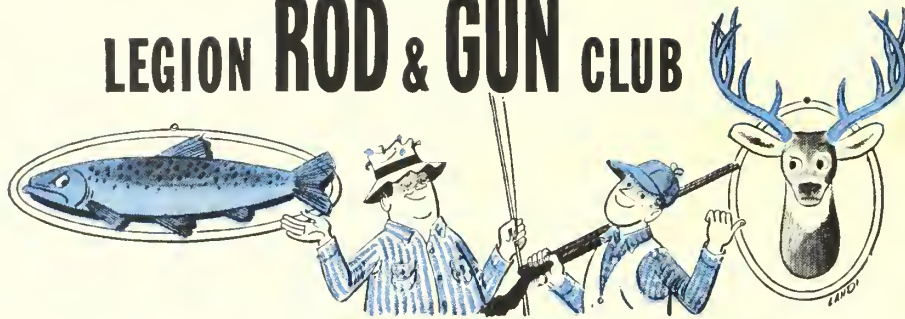
"kicking him out" he is found in any kind of obstacle in woods or field which is hard to penetrate, such as briar patches, hollow logs, clumps of weeds and thorny underbrush. Good rabbit country will include such cover, interlarded with open spaces as well as hedgerows along walls, fields or roads, fields near the edges of wooded land, swamp edges, swales and clumps of trees in open fields. When cover is thick he can be as quick and as elusive as a grouse or woodcock or such birds of jerky, uneven flight.

What a dreamland happy hunting ground Australia would make for the American rabbit shooter! Domestic rabbits were introduced Down Under as early as the 1780's, and although they reproduced they did not spread. Not so their wild counterpart, which were taken there from this country less than 100 years ago—on Christmas day, 1859. The wild rabbit found the Australian countryside vastly to its liking. There was an absence of the predators that keep his numbers down on the other continents and to the Aussies the bunny soon became a pest.

From the status of a pest it quickly
(Continued on page 57)

Jim Hurley, a newspaperman most of his adult life, has specialized in writing about the outdoors for the past 18 years. He is a member of the Society of The American Legion Founders, having attended the St. Louis Caucus, and is a former commander of Advertising Men's Post 209, N. Y.

LEGION ROD & GUN CLUB



This is the month I wait for, colorful, crisp, birdtime October. It's circled on my calendar in red and I think that even Mark, my male Weimaraner dog, knows when the September page is torn off.

But remember, October can be warm. Many northern, eastern and midwestern hunters have the habit of donning their regular hunting gear when bird season opens. Tramping the fields after your bird dog can bring out sweat like rain and the shedding process can be uncomfortable and inconvenient. Try knocking down a big cock pheasant with your hunting coat slung over your other arm. Some sports clothing manufacturers have faced this problem with items like the Dixie Bird Bag, and the hunting vest with built-in game bag which is made of lightweight material and is webbed with nylon so that the passage of air is permitted. The Bird Bag simply slings over both shoulders and belts around the waist. The belt is the shell-carrier and the game bag is blood and water-proofed.

When it gets a mite colder don't overlook the lightweight but superbly warm outdoor jackets made by S. E. Woods Ltd., of Hull, Quebec. Ask your sportswear dealer to show you the S. E. Woods Falcon line of vests, parkas and jackets. These garments are 100 percent down insulated. You never saw a chilly duck or shivery goose, did you, even in very cold weather? It's their down coat that keeps them warm.



When you're in the duck blind and those out-of-range shots go past, you no longer have to silently watch them fly by and curse your luck.

Herter's Inc., of Waseca, Minnesota, manufacture a line of famous game calls that are completely described in their new 94 page illustrated catalogue on game calls, decoys, shotgun stocks and forearms, shooter's accessories and equipment.

It is easy to learn to blow these calls, according to Herter's. Complete instructions come with every order. Phonograph records are also available recording exactly how and when to call.

By JACK DENTON SCOTT

Calls available for ducks, geese, crows, turkey, deer, elk, squirrels and predators. Imagine being able to imitate the death scream of a rabbit. Foxes, coyotes, wolves, eagles, lynx and bobcats know this screech that a rabbit makes when it is being bitten or clawed to death. When the predator hears it he comes toward it hoping some smaller predator that he can scare off is killing the rabbit.

Write to Herter's Inc., Waseca, Minn., (Dept. J.L.J.), for your free copy of this interesting catalogue.

Johnson Motors of Waukegan, Ill., have



pitched their 1954 5½-horsepower outboard right at the fisherman.

At the invitation of Bill Jonas, sales manager for Johnson, we witnessed and took part in a demonstration of the whole 1954 line at Hampton Bays, Long Island, recently.

The big change over 1953 is in the 5½-h.p. job. We were particularly impressed with the reduction in noise. You can carry on a normal conversation in the boat with motor running full throttle. The availability of a 4-gallon plug-in fuel tank similar to the 6-gallon plug-in tank, previously to be had only in the 10-horse and 25-horse jobs, is also a wonderful advantage. No more stopping to pour in more gas, maybe in rough water or in a storm. You have six-hour cruising range. Then there is twist-grip speed control and full-gear range, forward, neutral and reverse.

The 5½-horsepower motor will be priced just over \$200.00 f.o.b.

In addition to your gun, there are other personal possessions you should take good care of when you go hunting this month. Two little items most sportsmen pay scant attention to: their feet.

There's also an old and very true saying that a gun dog is only as good as his feet, and many of the important breeders of bird dogs lay great stress on breeding for sound feet and caution about keeping a dog's feet in shape. The dog's nails should be clipped

down to a decent length, even with the pad, so that they can't be torn and cause pain. Proper clippers can be bought at most sporting goods stores.

By the same token, cast an eye toward your own clod-hoppers. What kind of shoes do you wear in the field? Are they a correct fit or some old hand-me-downs? Do you wear properly-fitting socks? I remember an incident during the last war when a regiment of G.I.s in Italy were issued the then-new Shoe-Pac. They were admonished to wear the felt insole and two pairs of socks. Many of them ignored these orders and wound up in the hospital with trench-foot, others with just sore swollen feet. Corcoran, Mason and Bean make top hunting boots, bird-shooters and the heavy weather kind. All of these manufacturers like a penciled outline of your foot for correct fitting.

Jack D. Mansur from up around Fryeburg, Maine, took his young pup hunting last year and the dog ran into a buzzsaw, commonly called a porcupine. "Since that time," Jack avers, "I've carried a pair of small pliers with me. My dog's nose carried about 50 or 60 of the quills. Luckily,



we were only about five minutes from my car and I was able to get the dog back and pull the quills out before they had become broken and embedded. The greater lapse of time between contact with the porcupine and the removal of the quill, the harder it is to extract them. There's always the danger of the quills breaking off under the skin where they can start infection and become really dangerous to your dog. A small pair of pliers can be worth their weight in gold at a time like this."

If you have an unusual idea that pertains to hunting or fishing, one that is helpful to fellow readers of this column, send it along. If we can use it, we'll reward you with a hunting or fishing accessory. Address: OUT-DOOR EDITOR, Rod and Gun Club, *The American Legion Magazine*, 580 Fifth Avenue, New York 36, New York.



A DIGEST OF EVENTS WHICH ARE OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO YOU

GAINS AND LOSSES IN THE 83rd CONGRESS:

The first session of the 83rd Congress, which came to an end on August 3, will not go down in the records as one notable for legislation for veterans. . . . Facing an economy-minded Congress and, what was worse, a strong anti-veteran trend, the battle fought out at Washington by the Legion's legislative forces during the six months period was a gruelling one, alert and vigorous. . . . Fighting to hold the lines and to translate the Legion's legislative program into legislation, some three score bills backed by the Legion (out of a total of 10,529 from all sources introduced during the session) were enacted into law. . . . But these were for the most part of a general nature, or directly affecting the present service personnel. . . . However, all in all, in stemming the tide, while no great gains were made, the veterans' program did not fare too badly.

Most successful of the battles were (1) to save veterans preference against unwarranted discharge of veterans in the face of reductions-in-force throughout most Government agencies. . . . This was done with concessions, chiefly in applying the veteran credit of 5 and 10 percent on examinations. . . . Under the new law the mark-up of vet credits will be given after the vet has made a passing grade. . . . (2) To obtain funds for the operation of the VA, with particular reference to its medical and hospital programs. . . . Under strong attack both in and out of Congress, the Legion may well claim a major victory in the restoration of the funds allocated for medical and hospital care.

Conversely, the Legion's program suffered defeat in failure of Congress to act on most of its bills directly affecting vets of both WWs and Korea. . . . Among these are the proposal to equalize disability compensation, increased disability pension payments, to give parity to WW2 widows with those of WW1 in death pension payments, and — one that we have had with us for many years — to establish a Universal Military Training program. . . . All these were bottled up or sealed in Committee pigeon-holes. . . . Not dismayed, the Legion forces have well laid the groundwork for these and other items on the legislative agenda, and will return to the fight when the second session opens on next January 6.

* * * *

DRAFT DEFERMENT OF FATHERS ENDED:

A Presidential order dropping fatherhood as grounds for new draft deferments became effective on August 25. . . . The new order applies only to future fathers in the draft age bracket between 18½ and 26. . . . Those who have already received or applied for deferment for reasons of being fathers are not affected. . . . From and after August 25, fathers of draft age must prove their induction would cause "extreme hardship and privation" before they can claim exemption. . . . Order was issued to correct certain abuses of the deferment

provision, and was aimed mainly at youths who become fathers while temporarily deferred as students, farmers or defense workers. . . . White House statement said these deferments were granted with the understanding that the registrants would be liable for military service later. . . . But, says the statement, "some have been able to gain virtually permanent exemption by acquiring dependents during the period of their initial temporary deferment."

* * * *

OREGON NOT PAYING A K-VET BONUS:

Despite published reports, (including at least one Government publication), the State of Oregon is not paying a bonus to its veterans of the Korean War. . . . George A. Jones, Supervisor of the Oregon Bonus Division, writes: "The statement is in error, and necessary steps have been taken to correct the erroneous information. However, home loans and educational benefits are available to Korean veterans." . . . "The State of Oregon," Mr. Jones continues, "is presently paying a bonus to WW2 veterans having served at least 90 days between the compensable period, September 16, 1940, and June 30, 1946, and who were bona fide residents of Oregon for one full year prior to entry into active duty." . . . Deadline for filing is December 21, 1953. . . . Eligible WW2 vets can get forms from Mr. Jones, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Bonus Division, Salem, Oregon.

* * * *

VERMONT, MASSACHUSETTS BONUS FOR K-VETS:

Cessation of active hostilities in Korea, and the return of men called into service in that conflict, has brought many inquiries to Vetletter about authorized State bonus payments. . . . Only two States have made provision for such payment — Vermont and Massachusetts. . . . Michigan has not provided a bonus for living veterans of Korean service, although surviving kin of men who died in service may qualify for a \$500 lump-sum benefit.

Vermont — first State to authorize a K-vet bonus — under an Act approved March 16, 1951, pays only to enlisted men and women who served in the Armed Forces between June 27, 1950, and June 30, 1953, who were residents of the State for at least one year prior to entry into service. . . . Veterans are eligible to receive \$10 per month, up to 12 months, or \$120 maximum, payable upon death or honorable separation from the service. . . . Next of kin of men who died in service are eligible to receive the maximum of \$120; if vet died after discharge, survivors will receive amount earned by his months of service. . . . Further legislation will be required to cover service after June 30, 1953. . . . Eligible vets get application forms from Murdock A. Campbell, The Adjutant General, Montpelier, Vermont.

Massachusetts: Second in line, the Old Bay State has

authorized payment to K-vets in staggered sums, according to their service. . . . For those who served after June 25, 1950, who had been residents of the State for at least six months, a \$100 bonus is given for 90 days service (or less than 90 days, if vet was discharged for injury or disease); \$200 payment for more than six months stateside service; and \$300 maximum for service outside the continental limits of the U. S. . . . Residence must be proved by certification of the assessor of the city or town in which the vet lived at time of entry into service (or his parents, if a minor). . . . Application must be accompanied by original DD Form 214 (Report of Separation), and self-addressed envelope. . . . DD Form will be returned after claim is adjudicated. . . . First checks are scheduled to go out some time in early September. . . . Application forms from Veterans Bonus Commission, 15 Ashburton Place, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

* * * *

VA CHECKING ON DEPENDENT PENSIONERS:

VA has a new job on its hands — a complete check on the financial status of parents who are receiving pensions for the deaths of sons or daughters in WW2. . . . Such parents are not entitled to the pensions unless dependency on the benefit is shown. . . . All parents who are receiving the dependency allowance are being sent questionnaires to determine their incomes and expenses. . . . The inquiry does not apply to widows of war dead as they are entitled to compensation under the law, provided they do not remarry. . . . Nor does the investigation have anything to do with insurance payments on USGLI, NSLI or other Government insurance. . . . Under present law a parent can be granted a pension for the death of a son or daughter only if dependency on that child can be shown. . . . Such dependency, however, need not have existed prior to the death of the child. . . . After the claim is proven and pension payments start the parent is assumed to be continually dependent on such funds, though not necessarily wholly so. . . . Any change in financial status should be reported to the VA. . . . Present review was sparked by a 10 percent sampling of dependent parent pensioners which indicated necessity for overhauling the rolls.

* * * *

FOR VETS WHO WANT TO BUST INTO PRINT:

Pacific Stars and Stripes is looking for short fiction written by vets or service personnel. . . . From 1,000 to 2,000 words, interesting to service readers but not necessarily with military setting or characters. . . . Humor, sports and adventure stories especially wanted. . . . Pays \$10 to \$20 for publication rights in Japan, Korea and Pacific Islands. . . . Budding authors must give name of unit, dates of service, and statement that script is original writing, not printed elsewhere. . . . Send scripts with self-addressed, stamped envelope, airmail, to Feature Editor, Pacific Stars and Stripes, APO 500, C/o Postmaster, San Francisco, California.

* * * *

GI LOAN GRATUITY PAYMENT SUSPENDED:

VA has announced that in compliance with Public Law 149, 83rd Congress, approved by President Eisenhower on July 27, GI loan gratuity payments will be suspended from September 1, 1953, to June 30, 1954. . . . Previously, vets who obtained a GI loan were given a gratuity payment equal to 4 percent of the guaranteed portion of the loan, up to a maximum of \$160. . . . These payments were credited to the veterans' loan accounts by the lender. . . . In cases where

loans were initiated prior to the cut-off date, August 31, the payments may be made if (1) A loan on which VA has issued an evidence of guaranty or certificate of commitment before September 1; (2) A loan closed and actually paid out in full before September 1 by a supervised lender, or (3) A VA direct loan which has been closed or VA has issued a notice of approval or commitment before the cut-off date.

* * * *

DEADLINE FOR K-VET TRAINING COMING UP:

Deadline for starting training under the Korean GI Bill is only one year away for nearly 1,000,000 K-vets. . . . The vets are those who served since Korea, who were discharged or separated before August 20, 1952, and who have not yet helped themselves to the training benefits. . . . The law is plain — they must actually "enroll in and begin" GI training by August 20, 1954, in order to continue afterwards. . . . The mere filing of an application beforehand, with an intention of starting some time after that date, is not enough. . . . VA emphasizes that the 1954 cut-off date applies only to post-Korean vets who left the service before August 20, 1952. . . . Those separated after that date need not concern themselves with the 1954 deadline. . . . Instead, they have two years from the time they left the Armed Forces in which to get started.

* * * *

RIGHTS BETRAYED BY NATO, SAYS BRICKER:

"It will be difficult, if not impossible" to protect the fundamental rights of American servicemen abroad under the NATO treaty, Senator John W. Bricker, Ohio, asserted in an address to the Judge Advocates Association. . . . He contended that the treaty "surrenders to the local courts of NATO countries and Japan criminal jurisdiction over non-military offenses of American Armed Forces personnel, civilian components and their dependents." . . . Putting it bluntly, he said we must do our best to protect them, but the laws of many foreign countries fail to protect the basic rights of individuals as the U. S. Constitution does. . . . "The American GI was sacrificed on the altar of international cooperation," he said. . . . Senator Bricker is the author of the pending Legion-supported proposed amendment to the Constitution to limit the treaty-making power of the President in reference to the basic Constitutional rights of American citizens. . . . The amendment would not change the legal effect of treaties that did not become internal law.

* * * *

ONE MEMBER GROUP HAS MANY AFFILIATES:

At Milwaukee on August 24 some 1,300 delegates from three groups assembled for a national convention. . . . What is most unusual is that all three are affiliates, numbering thousands of members, of an organization that has only one member. . . . The three, all affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, are the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the GAR, and the Daughters of Union Veterans. . . . The GAR's lone surviving member is 106-year-old Albert Woolson, Duluth, Minnesota.

* * * *

VET POPULATION IN THESE UNITED STATES:

A VA statistical summary fixes the veteran population of this country at 20,138,000 as of June 30. . . . Of the total, 15,440,000, or 76.7 percent, were WW2 vets; 1,963,000 were vets with service since June 27, 1950; 3,311,000, or 16.4 percent, were WW1 vets; and 152,000, or 3/4 of one percent, were of Spanish-American War and other wars prior to WW1.

"DEAR SIRs: By 1960 please send me these items..."



The facts in this letter are not imaginary. They merely sum up what economists predict for the United States by 1960.

To American Industries

Dear Sirs:

By 1960, please arrange to be making thirty per cent more goods than you made for me in 1950.

I expect a growth of about twenty million people in my family, the same as in the past decade. Part of my order is because of them. Part is to increase my standard of living.

If possible, arrange more leisure time for me. I do not wish to work longer hours to pay for increased purchases.

You will, of course, find me new products better than the old. You have done this in the past, but please increase your efforts.

Please tell the electrical manufacturers to be making 2 times as much by 1960. I am increasing particularly my purchases from them.

Very truly yours,

(signed) The American Public

What this letter calls for is clearly understood by any company or industry that has earned public good will and hopes to keep it.

Here are three moves that General Electric is accordingly making:

First, if production and leisure are to increase at the same time, the nation's skilled man power must be used with increased effectiveness.

To help create more goods to meet America's needs, General Electric is in the middle of a billion-dollar expansion program.

Second, products now on sale must *do* more if people are to get more for their money. Examples may help here. Engineers at General Electric have multiplied the efficiency of turbines, the light from lamps, the power of x-rays, and so on. Such engineering is and must be an always expanding program.

Third, new products must be found to make known products obsolete by comparison. To find new truths, research in America must increase. At General Electric, new research facilities and people are being added.

Here are some fields where scientists say new discoveries could make a big difference to all of us . . . ways to convert atomic energy into useful power . . . ways to store heat for later use . . . ways to create light from now invisible infrared rays . . . "fuel cells" to convert energy of gaseous combustion directly into electricity . . . new metals to stand higher heat (for jet engines and turbines).

October 15th marks General Electric's 75th anniversary. We start the next 75 years with greater experience, more capacity and, we hope, more efficient planning. We hesitate to look back over our shoulders at what has been developed—modern x-ray, electrically driven trains and ships, the tungsten lamp, the fluorescent lamp and such—for we are convinced that the findings of the future will be more significant.



You can put your confidence in—

GENERAL  ELECTRIC

How Glenn Douglass Built His Own Oil Business

In 1946, after comparing dozens of business opportunities, Glenn Douglass invested his life savings in a small service station in Hamilton, Ohio.

Today, after 7 years of hard work, Glenn Douglass has built a highly successful oil business. His company operates eleven service stations. And, as a wholesaler, he sells over 4,000,000 gallons of oil products a year to service stations, farmers and fuel oil customers.

Glenn Douglass' success story shows the limitless opportunities in the oil business for men willing to work hard and meet the day-by-day competition for business that exists in every branch of this industry.

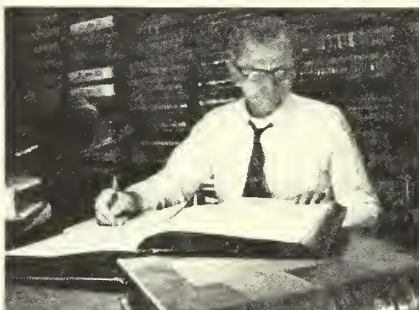
Throughout America there are thousands of local oilmen like Glenn Douglass. Called "wholesalers" or "jobbers," they compete with rival oil companies, large and small. To win your business they try to reach you first with the newest, most improved oil products and the best service possible. This is one more way you benefit from America's privately managed, competitive oil industry which provides opportunity for all.

Oil Industry Information Committee
AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE
50 West 50th St., New York 20, N. Y.

Attention Post Adjutant! Write us for details about free movies and interesting speakers on the Oil Industry.



CLOCKING TRAFFIC on a rainy night at a Hamilton, Ohio street corner, Glenn Douglass studies a possible location for a new service station. His painstaking study of local business conditions is one big reason why Douglass was able to build a small service station into an oil company in just 7 years.



MORE HARD WORK is put in by Douglass in County courthouse where he pores over records to spot likely future service station locations.



DOUGLASS DESIGNED this service station. Station operator reports that large display windows boost sales of tires, batteries and accessories.



SUCCESS STORY: Picture at left shows Douglass and all the employees he had in 1946. Picture at right shows how his company has grown in just 7

years. This year Douglass will buy over 4 million gallons of oil products from a refinery—distribute them throughout Ohio's Butler County.



CIVIC MINDED Glenn Douglass, a local Boy Scout director, introduces Scouts from Oxford, Ohio, to Ted Kluszewski of the Cincinnati Redlegs.

Report from ST. LOUIS

35th National Convention August 31—September 3.

OCTOBER 1953

The Issues Were Global In Scope, The Fun Was Mainly Grass-Roots

THE 35TH NATIONAL CONVENTION will be described by those who attended in one word—hot. St. Louis, in spirit and on the street, had high temperatures during the four-day gathering which began August 31. In committee meetings and on the floor of the convention, internal, national and foreign affairs were hotly debated, argued and acted upon, while visiting Legionnaires enjoyed the city's hospitality and sights in temperatures which hovered consistently around the 100 degree mark.

The critical issues, the heat and the Legion's insistence upon orderliness made the Convention a serious one, following the pattern of recent years. The largest convention in St. Louis history brought commendation from citizen and official alike. A service committee made up of 400 Legionnaires of the St. Louis Police Force were on 24-hour duty and found their major duties limited to directing visitors around the city.

Forest Park with its famed zoo and other attractions drew many of the more than 32,000 registered Legionnaires during the day and in the evenings the hotel district rocked with bands and delegations piling into the streets. St. Louis breweries held open house for everyone with a Legion cap while the Salvation Army tent in Memorial Plaza served soft drinks and doughnuts during the Legion's stay.

¶ Riverboats and prize fights, ball games and reunions were part of the Convention picture. As usual the Legion's own spectacles drew big crowds with the Drum and Bugle Corps competition filling High School Stadium to overflowing. Reilly's Raiders of Post 856, Philadelphia won for the second year. For the eighth consecutive year Post 5, Joliet, Ill., won band honors, and Post 23, Milwaukee was the upset winner in the chorus contest. Delta, Ohio, Post 373 captured the firing squad contest and Post 85, Bradley, Ill., the color championship.

¶ In the junior competitions, the all-girl color guard from Post 20, Philadelphia, took top honors. Post 255, Garfield, N. J., won the drum and bugle competition and Post 31, Milwaukee the band contest.

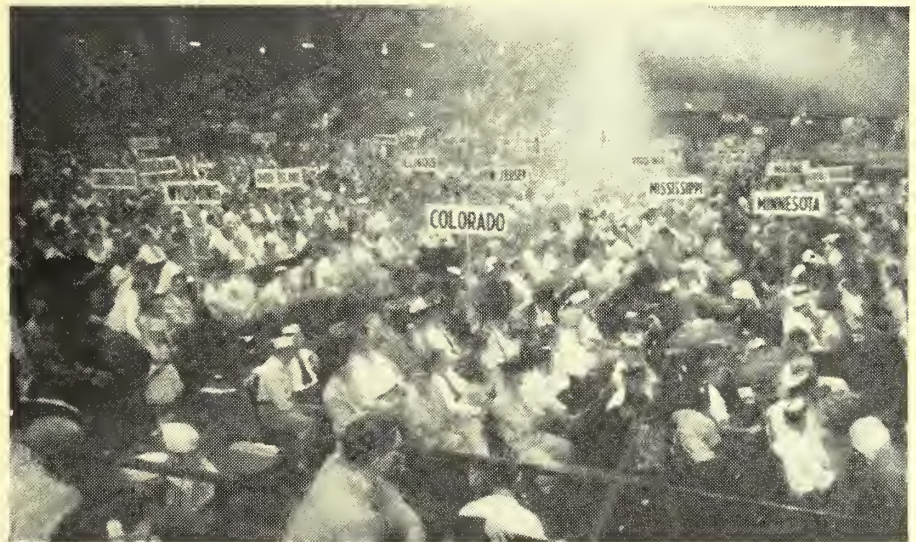
¶ In the seventh annual drawing for the new Ford convertibles provided by Seagram Posts, the winners were Conrad J. Frantz, Fennimore, Wisc., William O. Whorton, Albany, Texas, Paul L. McCormick, Owego, N. Y., and Miss Dora Meiseman of St. Louis.

¶ In Kiel Auditorium, delegates listened to a distinguished list of speakers headed by Vice-President Nixon, Secretary of Defense Wilson and Secretary of State Dulles. In a major policy address, Dulles spelled out our new foreign policy and bluntly warned the communists that further aggression in the Far East might well bring on WW3. For the first time, an American Legion National Convention had the opportunity of hearing ad-

call votes. Foreign affairs were highlighted with passage of a resolution expressing disappointment in the UN and urging revisions of its charter and further study of some of its agencies. The Bricker Amendment in principle but not in name was approved. An expected floor fight over the controversial Air Force budget failed to materialize.

¶ The posthumous award of the Legion's Distinguished Service Medal to Royal C. Johnson, who was first chairman of the House Veterans Committee was accepted by his son Navy Captain Harlan T. Johnson.

¶ The Convention stopped work on Tuesday while the Legion put on the biggest parade ever seen in St. Louis. As the entire nation sweltered in a heat wave and the thermometer hit 110 degrees in downtown streets, a half-million people watched 100,000 Legionnaires stage their colorful show. For more than eight hours, bands, floats, marching men and military



In Kiel Auditorium delegates to 1953 National Convention get down to work.

resses by the heads of the two major labor organizations as Walter P. Reuther spoke for the C.I.O. The A. F. of L. which has participated in many previous conventions, was represented by George Meany.

¶ On the Convention floor two resolutions—general pensions for vets and one concerned with 40 & 8 compliance with the Legion's constitution—came to roll

units paraded. Overhead Navy, Air Force and National Guard planes provided air cover and the city took on a carnival air.

¶ The final day of the Convention saw four candidates nominated for the Legion's top post. Arthur J. Connell of Middletown, Conn., was elected National Commander unanimously.

Photographs by Donato Leo

Details Will Be Found On Next 10 Pages.

Serious Affairs Made Policy For Legion And Nation Too

NEWSPAPERS got plenty of copy from the four days of the Legion's 1953 Nat'l Convention, as Vice-President Richard Nixon spoke to the point on questions of defense and subversion; as Secretary of State John Foster Dulles chose the Legion's platform from which to unveil a new U. S. policy of diplomatic toughness in Asia, and as Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson broadly outlined U. S. military planning, with emphasis on the most power for the least money.

Reporters who expected hot copy on Legion action over two hot issues were disappointed. Pre-convention gossip had it that the Legion was ready to ask that the U. S. dump the UN completely, and that a bitter floor fight would develop in an attempt to get the Legion to tell the gov't just how big an Air Force and just how big an Air Force budget it should maintain.

The Convention was scarcely an hour old on Monday Aug. 31 when Past Nat'l

Cmdr Donald R. Wilson of West Va., scalded the UN as an untrustworthy instrument for world peace in a loudly applauded opening talk. But though subsequent Legion action echoed widespread discontent over the UN as a peace tool, it fell far short of demanding a walkout.

No Blueprint

The awaited blow-up over reduction of the Air Force budget fizzled. Neither the Convention committee on Nat'l Security nor the 3,164 delegates chose to pinpoint Air Force growth for the gov't. They were content to go on record favoring balanced armed might well above minimum safety needs, achieved as economically as possible.

Vice-President Richard Nixon opened a half-hour talk to the Legion with a summary of the reduction in Air Force funds. He characterized it as a budget cut,



Experts who helped guide Convention on vets employment and UN policy sit with NEC. Bruce Stubblefield (D. C.) with cigar, is Civil Service vets section chief. Past Nat'l Cmdr Ray Murphy, center, makes study of UN for Legion.



Past Nat'l Cmdr John R. Quinn (Cal.), left, confers with outgoing Nat'l Chaplain Father John E. Duffy of Ohio.



Past Nat'l Cmdr John Stelle (Illinois) makes a point at Nat'l Exec Committee.



Bill McKinley, N. J. Nat'l Committeeman, on the floor.



Rob't E. Rodes, Casablanca, claims U. S. treaty enforcement in Morocco is lax.

but not an air power cut, and implied that only a financial cushion had been removed. Nixon stated flatly that U. S. air power would keep growing as fast as it could without upsetting the balance of over-all military expansion and the nat'l economy. He said the gov't felt that military strength could not stand apart from a sound nat'l economy in keeping up nat'l security.

Appearing later on the program, Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson gave the Convention a detailed report of gov't efforts to make a broad plan of armed strength founded on a sound economy.

Later, when Nat'l Security came up on the Convention agenda, the Legion action closely paralleled Wilson's and Nixon's expressions—which in turn were similar to Legion Nat'l Security policies adopted a year ago.

Americanism

Veep Nixon, in the balance of his talk, turned to controversies over the control of subversion. Whatever the phrase means, he said, "book burning" could not apply to kicking communist literary works out of gov't libraries abroad. Issues of free speech and a free press do not imply a right of any author to tax-supported publication, he said, nor can they properly affect the selection of printed matter to be distributed at public expense for public purposes.

Nobody, said Nixon, has suggested suppression of communist literature at home, and the duty of libraries and others at home is not to suppress subversive printed matter but to expose the conspiracy of which such literature is a part.

Official investigating committees, Nixon added, must judge fairly between the innocent and the guilty, and between the past and present attitudes of persons investigated.

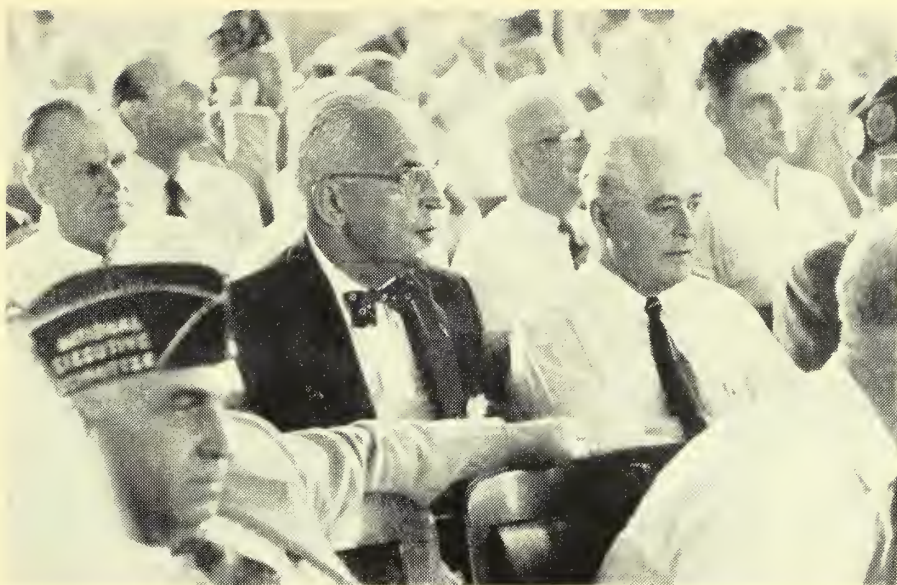
In the past, he said, investigations that exposed subversives in gov't jobs were often fruitless because no action followed their disclosures. Today, he said, the gov't will definitely remove from public jobs all persons exposed as serving subversive causes.

Nixon stated that one who refuses to testify to his gov't, claiming self-incrimination, forfeits his right to a gov't job. The question is not one of guilt or innocence, he said, but of competence for public trust. He stated as a personal opinion that the same principle applies to teachers.

In its own actions on Americanism the Legion:

¶ Mandated itself to (1) seek an additional expert on subversion as a staff researcher in that field and (2) move its subversive research office back to Washington, D. C.,

¶ Commended, for various Americanism activities, (1) several Congressional investigating committees and the Subver-



Lyle Poole, Wyoming Nat'l Committeeman (lettered cap); Past Nat'l Cmdr Paul McNutt, ex-governor of Indiana, and Crete Anderson, Ohio, at NEC meeting.



Past Nat'l Cmdr Donald R. Wilson (W. Va.), hatless, warned against relying on UN for world peace at Convention's opening. Here he sits with Nat'l Exec Committeemen Victor J. Bott, Utah, and Albert F. Cruse of Colorado.



Delegate C. LeRoy Shuping of Greensboro, N. C., speaks on subversion as a member of the Americanism sub-committee on Un-American activities.

Report from ST. LOUIS



Vice-President Nixon (center) of Whittier, (Cal.) Post, joins his delegation.



Secretary of State John Foster Dulles
. . . no pussyfooting in Asia.

SERIOUS AFFAIRS (con't)

sive Activities Control Board, (2) a substantial segment of the teaching profession, (3) those motion picture industry heads who are combatting communist influence, (4) The Nat'l Education Ass'n and the Ass'n of American Universities for boycotting the commie-designed World Conference of Teachers, (5) The F.B.I. and its director, J. Edgar Hoover and (6) the Hearst newspapers.

¶ **Condemned** (1) Consumers Union and its publication, *Consumer Reports* (2) Emanuel Bloch, Rosenberg's lawyer, and asked that he be disbarred.

¶ **Asked** for investigation of the American Civil Liberties Union.

¶ **Urged** again (1) the outlawing of the communist party, (2) tight immigration controls (3) full citizenship rights for American Indians.

¶ **Opposed** tax-emption for foundations that engage in ideological promotion on a nat'l or internat'l level.

No Door Mat

You do not get peace by accepting the "role of a door mat," said John Foster Dulles, U. S. Secretary of State. Legion debate on Foreign Relations was suspended on Wed. Sept. 2 to hear Dulles, who promptly issued a major U. S. policy pronouncement, proclaimed an era of realism in dealing with communist aggression in Asia. Many of his points made U. S. policy out of long-standing Legion policy, some of which had been reaffirmed minutes before Dulles appeared.

Dulles' headline-making statements included: (1) If the Korea problem dissolves into renewed combat the reds can no longer count on "privileged sanctuary" beyond the Yalu River. (2) U. S. will not debate Korea armistice "indefinitely" or beyond a reasonable point where progress or red sincerity seem absent and (3) There are no areas in Asia where communist aggression would not be a con-

cern of the U. S. New Red China aggressions, in Indochina for example, "could not occur without grave consequences which might not be confined to Indochina."

On another issue, Dulles said that the reds wish to have war prisoners returned against their will to prevent soldiers of any communist armies from deserting to the free world in any armed strife.

In its own Foreign Relations action, the Legion expressed no confidence in the UN as a world peace body as now constituted, and questioned the emphasis now given some activities of the UN's independent agencies.

However, the report, adopted by the Convention, urged sticking with the UN as an international stage, and asked for further Legion study of the independent UN agencies.

The report urged a maximum effort to make the UN a more effective peace instrument through the UN charter revisions due in 1955.

The Foreign Relations committee rejected a resolution seeking religious observances at all UN meetings, on the practical grounds that no services acceptable to all in the UN were to be had. But the Convention passed the resolution on the floor as an expression of Legion concern over lack of spiritual qualities in the UN.

One Foreign Relations report urged a constitutional amendment to protect U. S. internal laws from abrogation by foreign treaty or UN action. Illinois took exception, and asked that the Bricker Amendment be mentioned by name. On a voice vote the Convention supported the committee, approved the principle, did not specify the law.

The same committee recommended more courses in diplomacy in U. S. colleges. Exception from Illinois asked instead, for an academy of diplomacy. By vote the committee action was sustained.

Lively Issues

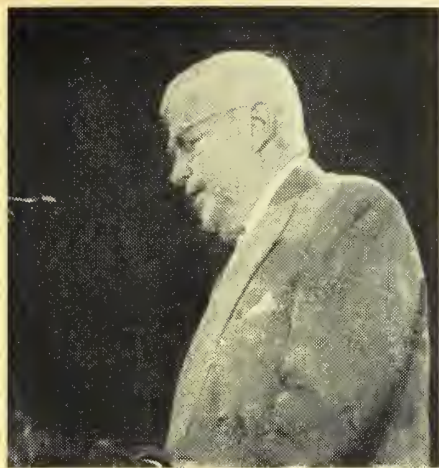
An issue of racial discrimination in the 40 & 8 was raised in 3 resolutions from Ohio, Illinois and N. Y. They were reported by the Convention committee on Constitutional Amendments. Chairman James Green, Neb., reported that the committee could not consider the issue on its merits. Neither the Legion constitution nor its charter to the 40 & 8 restricts membership in either organization on any basis of race, creed or color. Thus no amendment to the Legion's constitution was in question and the committee recommended rejection. Ohio brought its resolution to the floor and there ensued the most confused debate of the Convention. Delegates had trouble separating (1) the merits of the question, (2) the parliamentary problem and (3) the effect of the resolution if passed. On a roll call, the Ohio resolution as presented was rejected by 97 votes, 1591 to 1494.

Also debated at length was the referral for more study, by the Legislative committee, of an Ohio request that military status be granted certain women who served overseas with the armed forces in WWI at request of Gen. Pershing, without joining the armed forces.

An Ohio move for adoption without referral was defeated. Legislative Chmn Jerome Duggan then moved for rejection of the resolution without further study, and his motion carried.

General Pensions Nixed

For the first time in history, the Legion voted to oppose veterans pensions based on age alone. The Convention committee on Rehabilitation approved an anti-pension resolution submitted by New York, and rejected two pro-pension resolutions from Illinois and Pennsylvania. Illinois took the issue to the floor. On a roll call the N. Y. resolution passed, 2,479 to 532. Spokesmen against the general



Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson
... balanced military might.

pension spoke for pensions based on need. The Legion supports existing vets pensions based on need and disability, and VA recognizes age as a factor of need and disability in awarding them. In another Rehab resolution, the Legion urged VA to clarify and liberalize its regulations under which vets pensions are awarded.

The Miami 1948 Convention passed a general pension resolution. Subsequent conventions defeated pro-pension resolutions. No earlier convention ever passed an anti-pension resolution, however.

All Work, No Play

"I came a thousand miles and it looks like I'll miss all the fun," said a member of a Convention committee wryly. Small wonder. Convention considered 615 resolutions dealing with major policies and programs—not counting those matters that are essentially management, such as finance, publications and organization. To get the 615 resolutions before the Convention in orderly manner, 546 delegates shut themselves off from other activities for from 24 to 48 hours, worked on 9 major Convention committees, reported back to Convention, recom-

mended action on all 615 resolutions. Many others of the 3,164 delegates met in caucuses on more sensitive issues before Convention action on them.

The Convention committees urged (1) adoption of 329 resolutions in whole or part, (2) referral of 141 others for more study, and (3) rejection or tabling of 145 others.

Eleven exceptions to committee actions were taken on Convention floor. Two of them were immediately acceptable to the committees concerned, while 9 were debated on the floor. One of the 9 was accepted by the committee after debate.

Of the 8 remaining exceptions, the committees were upheld by voice vote on six.

The remaining two went to a roll call. Of the whole 615, committee action was reversed by vote on one issue.

Guests who spoke to the Convention included (besides Nixon, Dulles and Wilson): E. Roland Harriman, Red Cross president; George Meany, A. F. of L. president; William Early, president National Education Ass'n; Walter Reuther, C.I.O. president; V. C. Georgescu, Rumanian businessman—now an American citizen—who refused to collaborate with reds though his children are hostages.

Other guest speakers included: Missouri's Lt. Gov. James E. Blair, Jr.; St. Louis Mayor, Raymond R. Tucker; Harold J. Butterfield, immediate Past Dep't Cmdr, Missouri; Senior U. S. Senator from Missouri Thomas C. Hennings; ex-Marine Albert Ireland, most-wounded vet with 9 Purple Hearts.

A working Legionnaire who spoke as a guest was Joseph Piccirillo of N. Y., representing New York's Mayor, Vincent Impellitteri.

Outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Lewis K. Gough (Cal.) called the Convention at 9:35 a. m., Monday Aug. 31. Sgt-at-Arms Harry England (Cal.) ordered colors. Morton Downey sang the National Anthem. Outgoing Nat'l Chaplain Rev. Fr. John E.

Duffy (Ohio) gave a gripping memorial address, that detailed the sufferings of the prisoners from Corregidor of whom Father Dully was one. Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman (Mo.) gave the invocation, and Past Nat'l Chaplain O. G. Birkeland (Wis.) the benediction. Cmdr Gough gave his detailed report of the past year. President Eisenhower sent a special message of greeting.

Special awards included: Legion Dis-

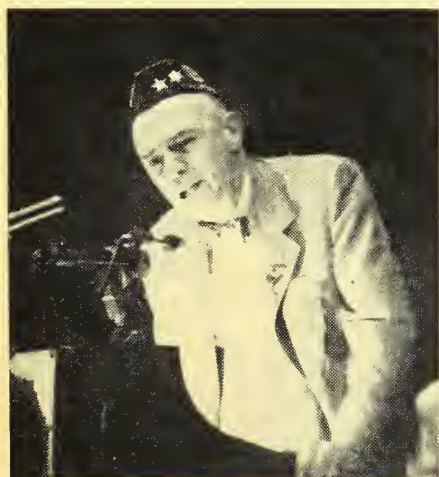
WASHINGTON NEXT

Next year's National Convention will be held at Washington, D. C., from August 30 to September 2. Ample hotel accommodations are assured.

tinguished Service Medal to Royal C. Johnson (posthumously), 1st chmn, House vets committee; a set of silver service trays to Mrs. Eve Ashton (Utah) outgoing Auxiliary President, from Cmdr Gough; medallion to Mayor of New York (by proxy), host of last year's Convention, presented by Past Nat'l Cmdr Edward N. Scheiberling; a gavel, made at Biloxi VA center, to Cmdr Gough, presented by Robert Warren, Miss.; 75 corncob pipes to Cmdr Gough, presented by Harold J. Butterfield, Past Dep't Cmdr (Mo.); Cross of Chevalier Du Merite Social, to Thomas E. Paradine, chmn Nat'l Security Commission, from Francois Briere, French Consul General (Chicago); Department of Defense award to Legion, via Cmdr Gough, presented by Secretary of Defense Wilson.

'54 Membership Confab

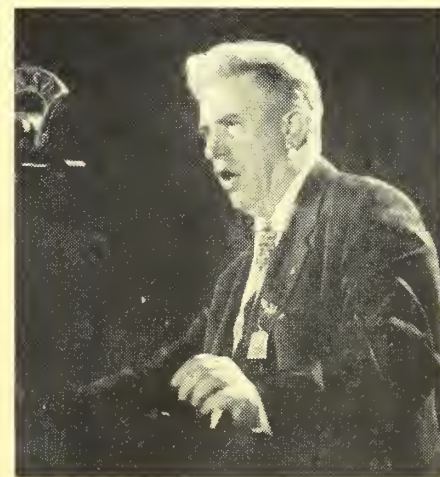
A meeting to plan the nat'l membership drive for 1954 preceded the Convention—on Aug. 29-30. Legion leaders from many states attended, reviewed nat'l Membership plans, heard experts speak.



Rehab Chmn Robert M. McCurdy
(Cal.) ... stress plight of needy vet.

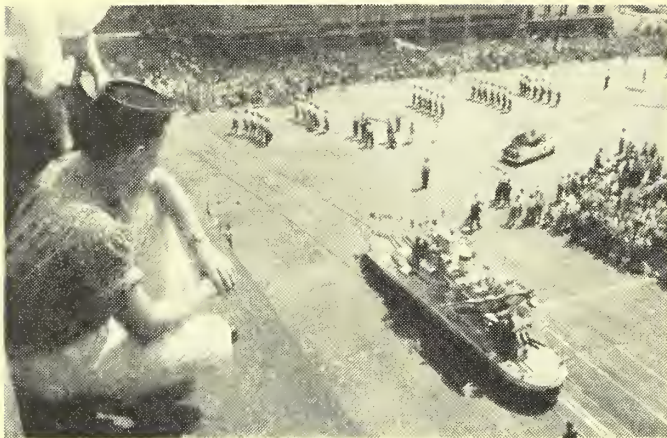


Nat'l Security Chmn Tom Paradine
(N. Y.) ... defense headed right.



Legislative Chmn Jerome Duggan
(Mo.) presents his committee's report.

Report from ST. LOUIS



For eight hours the big parade wound through St. Louis. Sight and sound competed for the attention of 500,000.

Everybody Got into the Act and Liked It



There were some who couldn't march, such as this disabled veteran.

PROVIDING ITS OWN cast of 100,000, who took part in parades, contests and impromptu exhibitions of all kinds. The American Legion gave St. Louis its biggest show in years. In turn, St. Louis provided for Legionnaires not only its famed "1001 Sights" but numerous added attractions specially scheduled for the occasion. Two days before the Convention officially opened the town was swarming with Legionnaires who soon located all the spots of interest and overflowed to points as far away as Meramec Caverns, 59 miles away. The big event, as usual, was the parade, with the Drum and Bugle Corps competition the runner-up among spectacles. There was plenty of everything for all, the majority went away happy.



The famed Kiltie Band of Oklahoma City was one of 320 bands which livened the big show.

Street temperature of 110 felled marchers and spectators. This is one of the many casualties.



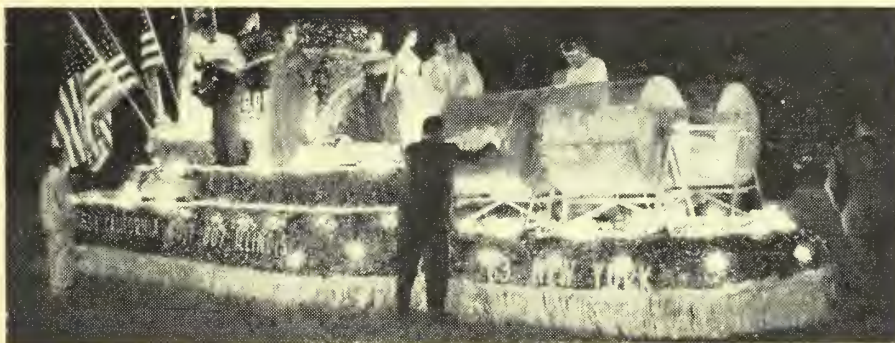
The Legion's Back to God movement was reflected in scenes such as this.



Twelve drum and bugle corps made the finals. Above, the bands mass at the end of the performance. Winner was Reilly's Raiders, shown in competition.



Many Legionnaires found time to sail the Mississippi in this streamliner.



Interest of a half-million contestants centered on this Seagram float at the competition. From the drums, four names were drawn to win new Fords.



Randy Sandy and Ernie Durando in Pabst bouts staged for the Legion.



These pretty precisionists, the all-girl junior color guard of the Howard F. McCall Post 20 of Philadelphia won national honors with a score of 98.10.



For the eighth year in a row Harwood Post 5 of Joliet, Ill., won first place in the national band contest. The score was 96.55, of a possible 100 points.

Report from ST. LOUIS



Thousands visited the Budweiser plant, hundreds were guests of company officials at the Busch estate, Grant's Farm.



Charles Hann (left), a Legion founder, Douglas McKay, Secretary of Interior (center), and Gen. Frank R. Schwengel, president of Seagram's, at the Schwengel Hormel luncheon.



David Fleischer (left), and Adalbert von Gontard of Convention Corporation (center), and Col. H. A. Wickens, head of Army, Navy and Air Veterans of Canada, at Founders Dinner.

... When Good Fellows Get Together

HOSPITABLE St. Louis outdid itself to give visiting Legionnaires all they could ask in the way of food and drink in congenial surroundings. Best of all, for the average guy, much of it was given free or at nominal cost.

High spot of the formal affairs was the National Commander's Dinner, which brought together Legion leaders, government officials and the great and near great from many walks of life. Its distaff counterpart, the Auxiliary's All States Dinner, had a similar turnout. Traditionally a feature of National Conventions, the Founders Dinner this year had special significance as the charter members of the organization were meeting in the city where the Legion was born.

Midtown hotels and restaurants and outlying clubs were kept busy with less formal gatherings as veterans got together at dinner tables, in hotel rooms or over breakfast coffee to hear speeches, reminisce, swap Convention gossip or promote projects.

Many Convention-goers were guests of Anheuser-Busch, Inc., which went all-out in its hospitality. Hundreds were guests at the famed Busch estate, Grant's Farm, on Sunday, while on Monday and Tuesday thousands more attended open house at the Budweiser Brewery.

Restaurants, especially air conditioned ones, reported a thriving business. Legionnaires reported good food, pleasant service and few complaints.

AT THE NATIONAL COMMANDER'S DINNER



Navy Secretary Robert B. Anderson, and Past National Commander Gough.



Adjutant-General Frank A. Weber and Governor John S. Fine of Penna.

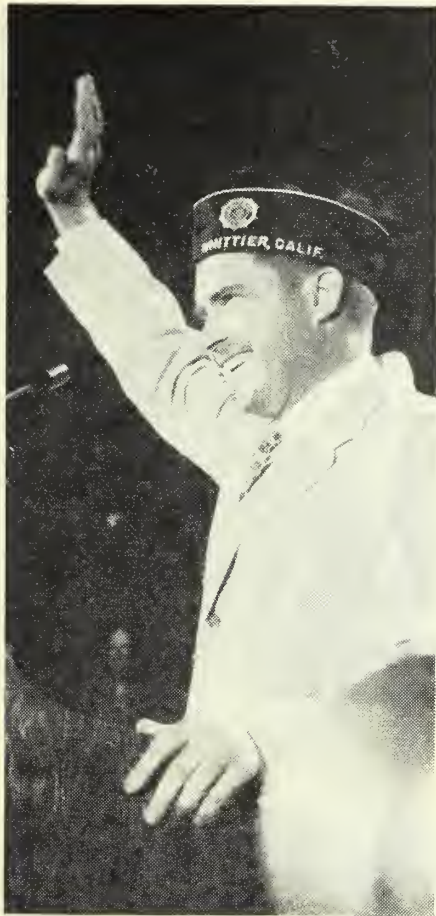


Mrs. Hazel Gough with V. C. Georgesen, who refused to turn against U.S.



Senator Stuart Symington and Lt. Gov. James T. Blair, Jr., of Missouri.

NEWSMAKERS AT THE CONVENTION



Vice-President Richard Nixon as he greeted fellow Legionnaires at Kiel Auditorium. His speech made headlines, aroused editorial comment.



Past National Commander George Craig, now Governor of Indiana, shown with Past National Commander Donald R. Wilson, registering at his hotel.



Senator McCarthy, addressing the Security Commission, made news by saying he would keep after subversives regardless of partisan politics.



George Meany
President of the
A. F. of L. as he
addressed the Legion.



Walter Reuther
President of the
C.I.O. spoke on
mutual objectives.



William Early
President of the
NEA, called for more
interest in schools.



V. Adm. J. G. Boone
VA Medical Director
was introduced to
Legionnaires.



Albert Ireland, nine-time winner of the Purple Heart, and Elaine Stewart, star of MGM's "Take the High Ground," meet on Harry Fender's radio show.

New Leaders For The Legion

COMING TO THE Convention with strength amassed through extensive campaigning, Arthur J. Connell of Middletown, Conn., was unanimously elected National Commander.

As the roll call of votes began it was soon evident that it was likely to be Connell all the way. When the roll call was completed, leading contender Lawrence J. Fenlon of Chicago stepped to the microphone and moved that the election be made unanimous. His motion was seconded by candidates Seaborn P. Collins of Las Cruces, N. M., and Charles L. Larson of Port Washington, Wisc.

The new National Commander rose



The newly elected National Commander of The American Legion, Arthur J. Connell, receives the emblem of office from his predecessor, Lewis K. Gough.



Margaret Mary Fenlon nominating her father.

through the ranks, from Post Commander to District Commander to Department Commander. He served as National Vice-Commander in 1942-43 and has been National Executive Committeeman from Connecticut since 1947.

He is the president and treasurer of Connell's at Middletown and of Woodruff's Inc., of Danbury, both clothing firms, and is vice-president of the George H. Ellis Co., of Boston, a printing concern.

Born in Boston, July 17, 1898, he was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard University. He volunteered for WWI service while a freshman at Harvard in 1918 and served as a seaman second class. On his discharge in 1921 he returned to Harvard to complete his education.

In his acceptance address, the National Commander stressed the basic objectives of The Legion, rehabilitation, child welfare, national security and Americanism.

"We shall concentrate on this target area of veterans interest," he said. "We shall assume no obligation that might in any way interfere or conflict with our efforts in these vital fields."



Legion's Vice-Commanders, from left to right, are Herbert M. Walker, Langhorne, Pa., Dr. D. H. Reed, Portales, N. M., Thomas W. Bird, Charlotte, N. C., Truman C. Wold, Watford City, N. D., and John A. High, West Swazey, N. H.



Growth of The American Legion's Back to God program meant greater interest than usual in election of Nat'l Chaplain. Honor went to Reverend Tom B. Clark, Christian Church, Buffalo, Okla.



Meeting in a downtown theater La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux elected as its new Chef de Chemin de Fer, Al B. Clarke, of Chattanooga, Tenn., right. Congratulating him is the outgoing organization head, John O. Newberry, of Jefferson City, Mo.



Past Auxiliary President Mrs. Rae Ashton of Vernal, Utah, with the newly elected Legion Auxiliary President, Mrs. Harold S. Burdett of Brooklyn.

Picture of Progress By the Auxiliary

MORE MEMBERS and greater accomplishments than ever before were reported to 851 delegates of The American Legion Auxiliary by Mrs. Rae Ashton, National President, at the close of her term of office.

Present enrollment of the organization is 982,941, approximately 2,000 higher than last year's record high, and Units are approaching the 14,000 mark. In practically every activity, more had been accomplished than ever before.

On the basis of these reports the delegates drafted a program for the coming year aimed at greater service in support of the purposes of The American Legion. The new program continues the activities so well established through years of trial and makes plans for their further extension to meet increasing needs of legion.

To lead the organization in carrying out this program, the Convention unanimously elected a former President of the New York Department, Mrs. Harold S. Burdett of Brooklyn. A WWI nurse with overseas service, Betty Burdett is the first American Legion member to hold the Auxiliary's national presidency.

The choice of the Convention for National Historian was Mrs. Alfred G. Patterson of Austin, Minn., while Mrs. William Snelson of Concord, Cal., was elected National Chaplain. Jane Gould Richworth was re-elected National Secretary at the meeting of the National Executive Committee which followed the Convention's adjournment. The committee re-elected Cecilia Wenz, National Treasurer.



Vice-Presidents elected at the Auxiliary's 33rd National Convention at Opera House are, left to right, Mrs. W. Graydon Painter, Lewisburg, Pa., Mrs. O. L. Koger, Topeka, Kan., Mrs. Irving F. Belser, Columbia, S. C., Mrs. W. C. Wallace, Anaconda, Mont., and Mrs. Vonley Miller, Lewiston, Idaho.

Yakima Wins Junior Baseball Title

Yakima, Wash., won the 1953 Legion Junior Baseball World Series in Miami, Florida, on September 5. Jumping off to a one run lead in the second inning, Yakima, behind Tom Gibson 16-year-old 6' 3" pitcher, beat the Winnetka, Ill., team, 4 to 1.

Gibson, in pitching a three-hitter, faced only 21 batters in the first seven innings. In addition he drove in three of his team's four runs.

Rain which had engulfed Miami, Fla., for a week stopped for the American Legion Junior Baseball World Series as four teams began play on September 1st to decide the Legion Championship.

Teams representing Post 59, Milford, Mass., Post 100, Cherryville, N. C., Post 10, Winnetka, Ill., and Post 36, Yakima, Wash., met in the 27th renewal of the little classic.

Scouts from every major league club were looking on as the series opened. Yakima behind the four hit pitching of Dave Dexter shut out Milford, Mass. Dexter, undefeated during the regular season, struck out nine as three errors by Milford canceled out the effectiveness of Bob Stoico's seven hitter.

In another close game, Cherryville, N. C., lost out to Winnetka, 2 to 1. The Tar Healers failed to live up to their reputation as the "Comeback Kids" when they lost out in the ninth inning for Winnetka's 28th straight victory.

Winnetka's winning streak was finally broken in the game won by Yakima, 6 to 1. Five errors and nine bases on balls gave Yakima its second series win.

Milford's stylish southpaw Ralph Lumentti scattered seven hits to beat Cherryville 3 to 2.

Winnetka made the finals by topping Milford, 8 to 6 in a game which took two hours and 51 minutes to play.

Faced with elimination, Winnetka beat Yakima, 5 to 2 as intested George Thompson pitched a four hitter. Dexter who gave up seven hits for Yakima suffered his first defeat in 12 starts.

Joe Adams served as Chairman of the Junior Baseball Committee and Harvey W. Seeds Post sponsored the 1953 tourney.

The American Legion Junior Baseball Player of the Year award was won by Charles (Chuck) Lindstrom. Winnetka pitcher and son of Freddie Lindstrom, former N. Y. Giant third baseman.

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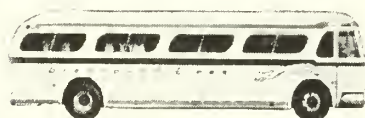
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THOSE THEY LEFT BEHIND

(Continued from page 19)

dren—or \$266 a month total. The fact, unknown to her, that *aggravation* of tuberculosis in service could establish service-connection is responsible.

Often, obscure service-connection may be simple for a service officer to establish. Thus in the case of a WWI vet farmer who fell off his mowing machine and was killed. A Legion service officer showed, conclusively, that the farmer fell as the result of an epileptic fit, caused by a wartime head injury—and his widow draws compensation.

The problem of service connection may be tough even for a skilled service

framework of the laws and regulations.

Who is a veteran's widow or orphan? Even if service-connected death is established, compensation is only payable to a survivor who can prove his or her right to it. A widow who has remarried loses her rights to compensation. An orphan may still be allowed compensation, even though the widow remarries. An orphan must be the natural or legally adopted child of the veteran, or be a step-child in the veteran's household, or an illegitimate child, if acknowledged, in writing, by him. Compensation is payable to orphans to age 18 or marriage, if earlier. It is payable after 18 and until 21 to unmarried orphans who are continuing their education in VA-approved full-time courses. Remember, an "orphan" in this case may have a living mother.

In common usage "widowhood" is a pretty well understood condition. But specific people don't always fit general terms. It is often a painful problem, after the death of a veteran, for a widow to prove she is, indeed, the legal widow. Literally thousands of veterans have married again without benefit of divorce or annulment of earlier marriage or marriages, according to Edward E. Odom, VA solicitor, whose job sometimes leads to decisions that would tax a Solomon.

"Get married properly," is Odom's advice to veterans who are concerned with the welfare of their wives and children. "Get married and stay married. But if you sever your first marriage, make sure you keep a record of the legal separation and leave it for your widow."

Only one person can get a widow's benefits, no matter how many women believe they are the real widow of the veteran.

It is always the person to whom the veteran was *legally* married at the time of his death. If any doubt arises, VA will go to great lengths to determine the legal widow.

In one case, two "widows" of a Civil War veteran filed benefit claims. In a probe that led all over the country, VA tracked down a third living widow, married 55 years before and never divorced. She got the benefit, a pension in this case.

Sometimes, a widow learns of her husband's earlier marriage only on filing for death benefits. The North Carolina survey brought up such a case. The filing of a claim that seemed automatic disclosed Navy records indicating that the late veteran had had a wife (not identified in any other way) long before his marriage to his modern wife.

(Continued on page 42)



officer, but still solvable. A WW2 veteran showed up with multiple sclerosis diagnosed *three years* after discharge—of which he finally died. Multiple sclerosis is deemed service-connected if it shows within *two years* of discharge, and it was proved there were manifestations of the disease in this period in this case.

There was no service record of the disease. But a look at the VA file disclosed he'd taken an aptitude test under the GI Bill and it had shown impaired finger dexterity and numb fingertips.

Affidavits were obtained showing that the vet had complained of weakness within a year after discharge though he did not then seek medical attention. The Board of Veterans Appeals overruled the VA regional board, on the basis of the Legion's development of the case, and ruled the death to be service-connected. Here the medical diagnosis was made *after* two years, but the Legion proved the existence of the disease, beyond reasonable doubt, at an earlier date.

The files are full of seemingly hopeless cases that have been won by diligent service work. The service officer, unlike the survivor, knows how to develop a case, if possible, within the

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(Continued from page 40)

This raised the question whether the first marriage had been properly dissolved by court or death, before the second one.

A state service officer spent seven months doggedly trying to locate a record of the first wife. He queried 37 agencies from coast to coast, each query leading to the next, before a better record of the first wife was found in a small midwestern community. It was her tombstone, and proved that she had died before the veteran married again. Thus the Carolina claimant was a legal wife, hence a legal widow.

Marriage customs at odds with the law have the worst of it, when benefits are awarded under law.

There was a time when women married aged veterans on their death beds in order to latch on to death benefits as widows. To prevent this racket, Congress has set up specific marriage requirements as to date and length of marriage for the veterans of each war. (For example, a World War I widow must have been married to the veteran by December 14, 1944, or 10 years or more, if later, before the death of the veteran, to become eligible for compensation or pension.) Continuous cohabitation with her mate is also required of the widow as a qualification for benefits, unless there is a separation in which she is without fault.

Compensation for dependent parents of deceased veterans.

Because this is *compensation*, service-connected death must be shown. This is the only *compensation* where need and dependency must also be shown. Dependency need not necessarily exist at the time of the veteran's death, provided it would clearly exist, at the time of filing the claim, if the veteran were alive. VA will accept proof of very low income as complete evidence of dependency. Parents with somewhat higher incomes who are nevertheless in need may be asked to show other proof.

The Carolina survey established many claims for this little-known type of compensation, principally in rural areas where aging couples would have depended on their war-killed sons to help carry on the farm in their advancing years. No *pensions* are available for veterans' parents, which emphasize that service-connected death must be established for any parents' benefit.

Pensions for veterans' widows and orphans.

To outline all the rules and regulations regarding *pensions* would only confuse the individual reader, interested in pensions in one case. Therefore, final clarification should always be obtained from a skilled Legion service officer. With that in mind, here are some guideposts.

First, the same evidence of relationship to the veteran that applied to compensation applies to pensions. The legal widowhood of a widow must be above reasonable doubt. The relation of an "orphan" to the veteran must be the same as described under *compensation* and so must be the orphan's age.

The fact that the veteran is deceased is a sufficient basis for a minor child to apply for a pension.

The pensions with the most liberal conditions of payment are those that are awarded widows and orphans of veterans of the Spanish War, the Boxer Rebellion and the Philippine Insurrection. They are the only veterans survivors *pensions* that are not based on need.

An unmarried widow of such a veteran may draw a pension if she can establish 1) The not-dishonorable service of the veteran in one of those three conflicts. 2) His death from any cause, at any time. 3) Her legitimate status as the veteran's widow. 4) Marriage to him before Jan. 1, 1938. 5) No separation from him through her own fault.

Pensions relating to veterans of WW1, WW2 and Korea are more stringent. They are never paid unless the income of the widow or orphan from other sources is under certain ceilings. These ceilings, in all three cases, are:

Widow, no child, \$1400 yearly.
Widow, one or more children, \$2700 yearly. Child, no mother or remarried mother, \$1400 yearly.

Some kinds of outside income do not count toward these ceilings—including certain sorts of insurance payments, and some kinds of benefits.

In several instances in North Carolina, widows had disqualified themselves because the cash intake from their farm products was above the ceilings. When service officers subtracted the cost of running the farm, some of them ended up in such low net income brackets that they got pensions.

Pensions for WW1 widows and orphans are paid under more liberal conditions than those paid to WW2 and Korea widows and orphans. Broadly speaking, the legitimate widow or orphan (in the proper age-bracket) of a WW1 vet who has died of any cause has a good chance of getting a pension if her outside income is within the above ceilings. There are other limiting factors that we skip here, which can rule out pension payment in some cases for WW1 widows and orphans. But it is always best to learn of these from a Legion service officer, who is best able to judge if the other limiting factors apply in the individual case.

Pensions for WW2 and Korea widows and orphans are subject to much more limiting conditions. These again

are complex, and a complete recital would be confusing. There is one broad guide as to which WW2 and Korea widows and orphans might take the trouble to seek further details from a skilled Legion service officer. If the widow's or orphan's other income is within the ceilings, and if the veteran in question is deceased from any cause, further inquiry is indicated because the deceased veteran may have had some sort of a disability related to his war service, or one which can be demonstrated to have been related to war serv-



AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

ice. This is *not* to say that WW2 and Korea survivors' pensions are due such widows and orphans in every case where the veteran had a disability during his lifetime that was connected in some way with his period in service. It *is* to say that *no* such pensions are available unless such a disability is of record or can be established.

Factors common to all pensions and compensation.

In most instances of pension or compensation for a veteran's survivor, the late veteran must *not* have had a dishonorable discharge, and his death must *not* have been due to his own willful misconduct.

In every instance, the relation of the widow, orphan or parent must be unchallengeable, as indicated in the discussion of *compensation*, and an "orphan" must meet the age definitions described under *compensation*. "Orphans" may qualify for pension and compensation in two ways. If the mother is living and unremarried, each qualified "orphan" serves to increase the total compensation or pension the widow receives. If the mother is deceased or remarried, and not qualified for payments herself, payments may be due in the name of the "orphan" himself.

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While a remarried widow loses entitlement to pension or compensation as a veteran's survivor, dissolution of the subsequent marriage by death of the second husband or by court action may restore that entitlement in the case of Spanish War widows.

Some veterans served very briefly in some wars, or after an armistice but before an official end to hostilities. Congress has defined, for each war, just what amount of service, between what dates, gives entitlement to war-service benefits.

None of the benefits described here are automatic. They must be applied for, and the right to them established by evidence that satisfies the many laws and regulations. With some exceptions, delay in filing a claim sacrifices payments that might have been due during the delay.

Because of the confusion that holds in wartime, and in military records, some of the evidence requirements to establish a claim are very liberal. Service officers know what these liberal areas of evidence are, the average claimant does not.

Every claimant has a right to appeal if his claim is rejected. Experience with appeals indicates that a good percentage of cases that were never appealed might have been appealed successfully. There have been cases where a service

officer filed a claim though he felt in his heart that the case wasn't good enough, only to see the claim succeed because of unforeseen developments.

In one such case, the VA located the very evidence that was needed right in its own files, while reviewing a case that didn't seem good until then.

U. S. Gov't and National Service Life Insurance

The first important point in this life insurance is that payment on policies is sometimes challenged by the government on the basis of very sound technicalities which neither the veteran nor his survivors anticipated. A skilled Legion service officer can sometimes satisfy the government on these technicalities in ways that are beyond individual survivors. The second point is that, in some cases, a policy that seems of doubtful value to the survivor may be good.

Two examples can give a good idea of the value of reviewing a challenged policy, or checking on one that, on the face of it, seems of no value.

The second example is noteworthy in that the Legion satisfied the government that an apparently non-existent policy should be paid off.

In the first instance, a county service officer helped a mother of a veteran collect his \$10,000 policy, which she thought had lapsed. He discovered that

the veteran-son had not drawn the \$60 payment allowed him upon his WWI discharge, and argued, successfully, *on the total merits of this particular case*, that the policy had not lapsed inasmuch as the government already had enough of the veteran's money to cover the disputed payment.

In the second instance, a classic case of Legion service, a veteran from the state of Washington was killed by U. S. bombs while in a Jap prison camp. There was no evidence that he had taken out more than \$5,000 worth of

WALLY



(From June, 1934 A.L.M.)

insurance. But the Legion tracked down ham radio operators who had heard the vet broadcast from the prison camp on a Jap wartime propaganda broadcast. He had said he had taken out an additional \$5,000 of insurance through the Red Cross. With that to go by, the Legion searched further and found survivors from the prison camp. They too testified that the veteran, as well as others, had filed for National Service life insurance through the Red Cross, with Jap consent. The U. S. officer who served as commanding officer of the POWs was located and certified that he had handled the insurance application. The POW medical officer was found and certified the insurability of the veteran at the time. Finally, the additional \$5,000 insurance was paid to the veteran's aging father. No written record of the insurance ever appeared.

Conclusion:

The purpose of this article is to give hints that will help steer likely and deserving beneficiaries toward help that is authorized and may be needed; without—as much as possible—arousing false hopes. Certainly, not all inquiries to service officers which may be inspired by these words will result in new awards, for there is more to the laws and regulations than appears here. But past experience shows that, at the low cost of asking questions, many worthy veterans' survivors may come into entitlements of which they are unaware.

THE END

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SECOND CHANCE IN GERMANY

(Continued from page 15)

As I wrote in 1949 in *The High Cost of Vengeance*, the "crimes against humanity" committed by the victors in World War II were as great as those of the nazis. The Katyn forest massacre is only one example of the many atrocities committed by the Russians. And although we ourselves are not guilty of comparable crimes we cannot be absolved from the charge of having agreed to the expropriation and expulsion from their homes east of the Oder-Niesse line and from the Sudetenland of 14 million people, for the sole crime of belonging to the German "race." The millions of women and children who died of hunger and cold on the long trek from Silesia and East Prussia or from Czechoslovakia may even have thought that a quick death in a gas chamber would have been more merciful.

Nor can we afford to forget that only eight years ago we stopped our victorious armies on the Elbe in order to permit the Russians to sack and ravish Berlin at their leisure. Among the several crimes against international law which we sanctioned was our agreement at Potsdam to "reparations in kind" in the form of forced labor both of prisoners of war and civilians—a privilege of which both Russians and French took full advantage.

If these crimes against humanity constitute only sins of omission, not of commission, what is to be said of our own behavior in Germany? Instead of demonstrating our belief in the Christian and truly liberal principles which made America the strongest power in the world, we signalized our victory over the nazis by reaffirming their doctrine that Might makes Right. Instead of showing the Germans that Hitler's racial theories were both wrong and ridiculous, we ourselves assumed the role of a "master race." Instead of establishing a rule of law, under which individuals are punished only for crimes they themselves have committed and of which they have been convicted by due process of law we indicted the whole German nation for Hitler's crimes. We held hundreds of thousands of Germans in prison until they could prove their innocence, while denying both legal counsel and knowledge of the charges against them under the *ex post facto* laws we decreed. The self-styled liberals who now inveigh against Senator McCarthy for assuming that persons intimately associated with the Communist Party, or communist fronts, and who now take refuge behind the Fifth Amendment, are to be accounted as members of the communist conspiracy, failed to protest when the wives and children and parents of former nazis, or joiners of nazi fronts, were deprived

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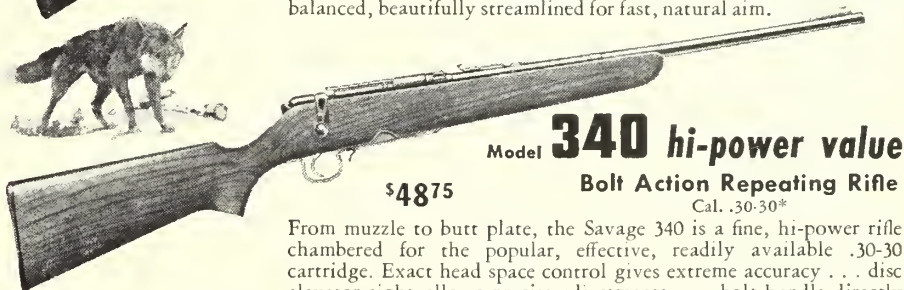
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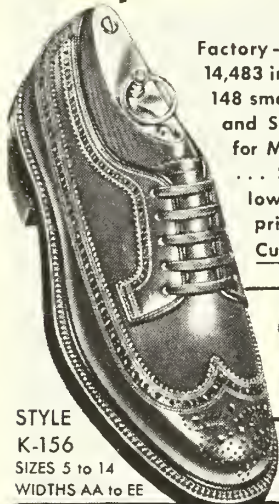


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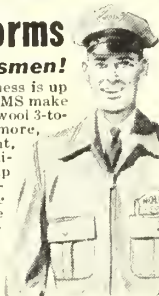
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of their property and their pensions as the relatives of slain German soldiers, by our application in Germany of the principle of "guilt by association."

Without any protest from the majority of those Americans who like to call themselves liberals, we not only penalized everyone remotely connected with the nazi party. We also told the cold and hungry Germans, in the cities shattered by our obliteration bombing, that they could expect neither mercy nor justice from us, since they were all collectively guilty. With what seemed to them cold-blooded hypocrisy, we told them that while disfranchising them as punishment for nazi crimes, we would teach them to love "democracy." Instead of realizing that their "unconditional surrender" put us under a moral and legal obligation to insure a fair deal for the German people, we proclaimed at the Nuremberg trials, that thanks to their "unconditional surrender" we no longer considered ourselves bound by the Hague and Geneva Conventions, but would punish them for having similarly disregarded international law when they were the victors.

JCS 1067, under which our occupation forces in Germany were forced to operate, forbade our commanders to do anything to revive the German economy, and freed them from any obligation to feed the conquered. This alone constituted a contravention of the international law which we had invoked when we insisted during the war that Germany was under obligation to feed the people of the countries she had occupied.

The soldiers of the United States were told that they were entering Germany not as liberators but as conquerors. The task of the occupation forces was conceived of, in so far as the causes for which we had fought the war were concerned, as entirely negative. It served only the interests of the communists and the nihilists. According to JCS 1067 our objective was to demilitarize, denazify, decentralize and deindustrialize the defeated enemy country. Nothing was to be done to make the Germans believe that the victory of the democracies offered either freedom, or hope, or justice or the possibility of redemption. Instead, we laid down rules and regulations for our occupation forces which might have been specifically designed to teach the Germans that their dead fuhrer had been right in saying that if Germany failed to conquer she would be destroyed.

While American soldiers were forbidden to "fraternize" with the Germans and punished if they gave food to starving women and children, the Germans themselves were forbidden on pain of imprisonment to criticize the Soviet Union or complain of its inhu-

man treatment of those we had delivered over to communist tyranny. American and German communists and fellow travelers were installed in the influential positions in United States Military Government, and in the German state and town administrations, on denazification boards, and as newspaper editors in the American Zone. In a word, we endeavored to convince the Germans that we had no objection to totalitarian doctrines and practices so long as they served communist interests instead of those of German nationalism. Worst of all, we made a mockery of our democratic professions by giving indoctrination courses in hatred to our own soldiers, teaching them to show neither mercy nor pity toward the Germans, in the same manner as young nazis had been taught to hate and abhor Jews and other "inferior" races.

Happily for us and the rest of the free world, the humanitarian scruples of the American people, and the innate decency of most of our officers and soldiers, prevented the full implementation of the brutal orders promulgated by the United States Administration. American soldiers, forbidden to take a morsel off their plates to give to the starving, and mess sergeants instructed to burn all leftover food which might otherwise have been collected from garbage cans by starving German children, got around these prohibitions in all sorts of ingenious ways. For instance, I was told the following story by a German woman in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, who had hidden a Jew in her house when Hitler ruled. "Some American soldiers," she said, "who heard what I had done, asked me what they could do for me. I replied that my children were hungry and I would be grateful for some food. They replied that it was forbidden to give any food to Germans, but asked me whether perhaps I had a dog. Fortunately I had one. As they piled up his bowl with good fresh meat, they informed me that although it was forbidden to feed German children there was no prohibition against feeding German dogs, and they need not stay to watch what became of the food they gave me."

These and many other stories I heard in Germany prove that American officers and enlisted men saved the day for us by insisting on behaving like gentlemen, in spite of officially decreed vengeance policies.

Among the many real Americans who kept faith in us alive during the period when we seemed to be intent on destroying all belief in justice and decency, the name of General Patton is preëminent in Germany.

Last year a German, who had suffered badly at our hands when imprisoned for no reason except that he came under

one of the categories signaled out for "automatic arrest," said to me:

"When the Americans leave we shall put up a statue to Patton."

"Why to Patton?" I inquired. "I know that you Germans think he was our best general, but surely it is unusual for the vanquished to put up a statue to their conqueror."

"We revere Patton's memory," he replied, "on account of the chivalry and humanity of his behavior to us in the bitter days of our defeat."

Another German said to me:

"Physical courage is quite common, but what we call civil courage is rare, as we well know after seeing how our own generals failed to stand up to Hitler when he was leading us to destruction. Patton showed that he had the rare quality you call moral courage when he dared to disregard Washington's instructions by doing everything in his power to ameliorate our sufferings after our surrender, when we were being starved and humiliated."

These and other Germans told me how Patton had saved the lives or sanity of many Germans, and kept alive their faith in America, in the immediate postwar period when hundreds of thousands of civilians as well as soldiers had been shoved into our prison camps because they belonged to a category singled out for "automatic arrest."

A German who had narrowly escaped death at Hitler's hands, thanks to his connection with the July, 1944 plot against the German dictator, but who had nevertheless been imprisoned by us, said to me:

"All of us were being slowly starved to death before Patton came. We got only 800 calories a day—which was the Buchenwald-Dachau diet in the last period of the war when in the general debacle no one bothered to feed the victims in the nazi concentration camp. It meant slow starvation. I read somewhere that Roosevelt told Byrnes that all the German people were to be punished by being allowed only 'soup for breakfast, soup for lunch and soup for dinner.' Well, in 1945-46 the German population as a whole was getting even less than the vengeance diet prescribed for them by President Roosevelt. So you can imagine how we 'war criminals' fared. Real soup made even only of bones would have seemed a luxury to us. Patton couldn't do much to improve our meager bean and water diet, but he stopped the brutalities of some of our guards, saw to it that the sick got attention and more food, and that we were given some shelter from the elements. Before he visited our camp we were lying on the bare ground."

"Did Patton manage to improve conditions in the prison camps as a whole in spite of Washington's orders?"



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"The main thing he did was to punish and restrain the sadists who are to be found in all armies, but who had been given a free rein to abuse us. He stopped the beatings and insisted that our human dignity be respected. And above all he gave us hope. No doubt that is why he was murdered."

"Murdered!" I exclaimed. "What do you mean? Surely he was killed in an automobile accident?"

"Well, if it really was an accident, why was there no public inquiry or court-martial of the driver of the truck which smashed up his car?"

I have no data on Patton's death. I am reporting here only the belief, which I found to be general in Germany, that he was done away with because he interfered with the vengeful Morgenthau plan to make us hated and to drive the Germans, in despair, to embrace communism. To the decent Germans guilty only of having fought bravely against great odds for their country, Patton has become a symbol for all that is good and honorable and humane in America. We owe it to him and to the many American officers and enlisted men who dared to follow his example, that the Germans are today more friendly in their attitude toward us than to the French or other so-called allies.

The most stupid and unjust things we did in Germany in the first period of our occupation can be explained only by the influence exerted over our policies by communist sympathizers masquerading as liberals. Operating on the false theory that "capitalists" and nazis were identical, we arrested the leading German industrialists, bankers and business men, as well as all diplomats and foreign service officials, regardless of their records. It is perhaps an exaggeration to say that in Germany today any business executive or "captain of in-

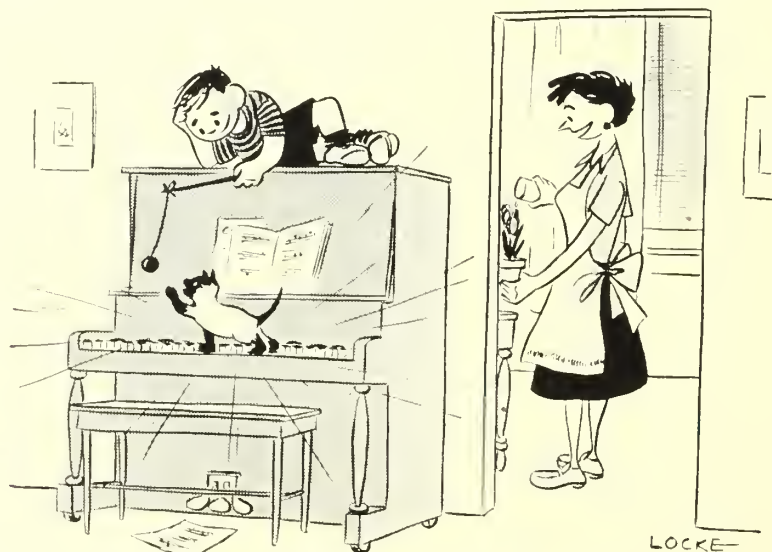
dustry" who was *not* arrested is regarded as of little account. But it is a fact that almost every man in a responsible position in industry, trade and finance can tell you a tale of suffering after the war. When I drove up from Bonn to Salzgitter with Dr. Paul Rheinlander, director of the great iron and steel works there, he stopped the car not far from Neanderthal, where the remains of the earliest near-human beings were found. We got out and he pointed to an open field down below the autobahn. "That's Recklinghausen," he said. "That's where I lived for eighteen months together with thousands of others, including women and sick people."

"You mean to say it was just as it is now; no houses or huts or other shelter?"

"Yes, indeed, thousands of us were herded into that small space without shelter. After the first months we were given some Nissen huts, but before that we lay on the bare ground without tents."

Herr Tegelman, director of a big coal mine at Essen, also told me how he had been imprisoned with 100,000 others from May to September, 1945 in a field without shelter near Rheinberg. The only drinking water available was drawn up from the Rhine and many of the prisoners consequently suffered from dysentery. In September the prisoners were given tarpaper huts. At first the prison had been run by the U. S. Army but was subsequently taken over by the British. This change led to Tegelman's release. The British were courting the German Social Democrats and the trade unions, and the coal miners signed a petition for his release.

So far I have related only some examples of the treatment received by hundreds of thousands of German pri-



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AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

soners of war, and civilians imprisoned because they were "capitalists," or business executives, or diplomats, or belonged to some other category of persons considered "automatically" guilty during the postwar period when communist influence was strong in Washington. Almost all of them have long since been set at liberty with no more regard for due process of law than when they were arrested.

The military "war criminals" who were tried and condemned by Allied courts are in a different category. Some were hanged at Nuremberg and Landsberg and others have been released as acts of clemency or on the expiration of their sentences. But there are still several hundred of them in prison in the U. S. and British zones.

No one will probably ever know which of them are guilty, in view of the travesty of a judicial process under which they were condemned to death or life imprisonment. It has been established by such trustworthy Americans as Colonel Everett of Georgia, and Judge Van Roden of Delaware, that torture was used to obtain "confessions" in the Malmedy process. We also know that witnesses were intimidated and bribed in these and other "war criminal" trials in the American zone. It would in fact seem that the American prosecutors and investigators (many of whom had become naturalized Americans only a short time before) acted on the nazi-communist principle that the aim was to bring a large number of people to the gallows, rather than to apprehend the real criminals. In the trials of those accused of being responsible for the atrocities in Hitler's concentration camps the innocent had little hope of acquittal, for the American investigators promised immunity to the most guilty if they would incriminate others, and threatened witnesses with reprisals against their families if they refused to sign dictated statements. The cycle of horror and injustice started by the nazis was completed when the men whose job under the nazis had been murder, were permitted by American investigators to save their own lives by perjury.

Until Korea, Americans had no conception of what it means to fight an enemy who has no regard for the Hague or Geneva Conventions or our "capitalist" usages of war. So we failed to understand the conditions in which the Germans had fought in Russia. Both we and the British condemned German officers and enlisted men to death or imprisonment for actions, or for remote responsibility for actions, taken by others which were permissible according to the Hague Convention, but not according to the *ex post facto* "laws" of Nuremberg.



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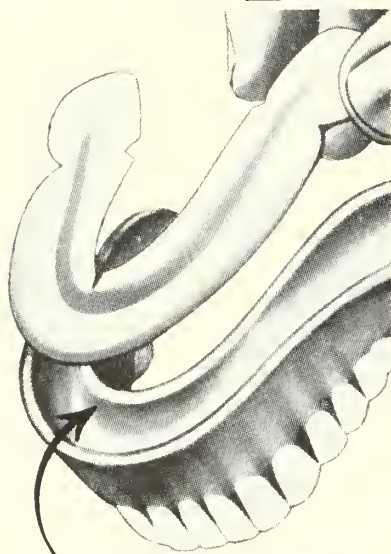
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It should also not be forgotten that long after Moscow's hostility to us had been unmistakably displayed, the Western Powers had continued to dismantle German factories, and even to ship their equipment to the Soviet empire, as "reparations."

Finally, in 1949, the senseless dismantlement policy, continued even during the Berlin blockade, was brought to an end by the United States Congress. By that time we had begun to realize the high cost of vengeance entailing the taxation of American citizens to provide a dole for our defeated enemies deprived of the right to work for their livelihood. We had long before started giving American food to the Germans "to prevent disease and unrest." Gradually the ceilings we had placed on Germany's production were almost though

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not entirely removed; and we began to aid her industrial recovery with Marshall Plan funds.

Nevertheless, as late as November, 1950, after the Korea war had begun, the British started to dynamite what was left after dismantlement of the "Hermann Goering" iron and steel works at Salzgitter in Lower Saxony close to the Russian zone frontier. This final stupidity was stopped by the protest of Senator Eastland of Mississippi. Otherwise the German workers who resisted the British destroyers in 1950 might have been slaughtered by our British allies in much the same manner as the East Germans who defied the Russians in June, 1953.

Whatever the rights or wrongs of the past, one thing is certain. Unless both we and the Germans can get together there can be no hope of saving Europe from communist conquest.

Seeing the courage of the unarmed Germans who dared to challenge the might of Soviet Russia, and hearing of the fantastic exploits of the Berlin youths who threw stones at Red Army tanks, we must realize that "the Prussians" still possess the qualities which enabled their ancestors to defend the northeastern approaches to Europe, and which today can alone save Europe.

When misdirected, as they were by Hitler, the courage and endurance, patriotism and loyalty of the German people, most pronounced in the East Germans, or Prussians, were a menace.

But once enlisted in the cause of freedom these qualities constitute our last, best hope for the defense of Europe and the defeat of Soviet Russia.

At the time of writing it would seem that we have failed to take advantage of the opportunity afforded us by the heroic resistance of the East Germans to communist tyranny, whose lead has been followed by the Poles and Czechs and Hungarians.

In the early summer days of 1953 we failed to press our advantage against the Soviet power, divided and weakened by Stalin's death and the revolt of the satellite peoples. We frittered away our opportunity to aid and encourage the forces of rebellion in the Soviet empire while intent on crushing Syngman Rhee's opposition to our appeasement of the communists. While proclaiming "sympathy and pity" for the East European peoples we delivered over to Soviet rule at Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam, President Eisenhower ruled out physical action which could be construed as "intervention."

Meanwhile the Western High Commissioners in Germany issued a statement on June 27 which studiously refrained from condemning the measures taken by the Russians to suppress the East German rebellion in blood. Instead, they called for a return to "normal conditions," as if a divided Berlin and dismembered Germany were all that we desired.

It is impossible to say whether the explanation for our reluctance to take advantage of the historic opportunity afforded by the first large-scale revolt against communist tyranny is to be found in British and French appeasement influence or in our own prejudiced and outdated attitude toward Germany. It would seem almost as if Winston Churchill, in his declining years, conceives of the survival of the Soviet government as a vested British influence, since he and his government have strenuously opposed material or moral support being given to those who prefer death to slavery either in East Europe or Korea. It is even more certain that France, whose voice is usually represented in America to be that of "Europe," wants us to appease Soviet Russia at all costs.

If we cling to the illusion that an accommodation with Moscow is both possible and desirable, both the Germans and the other people now in our corner on both sides of the Iron Curtain, will abandon hope and become our enemies. For lost allies are not merely lost; they are inevitably driven to join the other side.

Providence saved us once from the consequences of our uncharitable behavior toward our defeated enemies. We now have a second chance. **THE END**

STOCK CAR RACING PROVES WHAT?

(Continued from page 17)

spur more effectively than anyone. His famous old "999" and the man who became identified with it and all racing, Barney Oldfield, set more people scrambling out to buy Fords than anything else Ford could have done. Other manufacturers were quick to learn.

AAA, largely at the behest of auto makers of principle, who felt that some governing authority should ride herd on the industry, came into the picture in 1902, and very shortly was building a respected reputation for auto racing. One of AAA's functions, then as now, was to place performance claims on the strait and narrow.

All racing in that era up to about 1910 was programmed as "stock." The only alteration supposedly permitted was the use of racing bodies. But even as late as 1912, manufacturers were still putting their names on specially built cars. That year, Buick was forced to change the name of its racing car from Buick to Marquette. It was decreed that the cars Buick was entering as stock were, in the words of the *Indianapolis Star*, "out-and-out special racing cars built and manufactured for the purpose of racing under the Buick name, at Marquette, Michigan." The "Buick-Marquette" was barred from the Indianapolis race that year.

Stock car racing continued to develop up to World War I and beyond. In the years prior to World War II, it dropped off in popularity and, of course, became non-existent during the war. Now it is booming again to the extent that it is even commanding the attention of the most stand-offish critics of all: Those men in Detroit, Dearborn, Lansing, Flint, Pontiac and Willow Run, Michigan; Toledo, Ohio, and Kenosha, Wisconsin, who produce America's 18 makes of production line autos.

Instrumental in bringing this type of racing back to the fore is NASCAR. Formed in 1947 in Daytona, Florida, by Bill France, William Tuthill and 16 others, NASCAR operates in the U. S., Canada and Hawaii and is the kingpin in stock car racing.

Its Grand National Circuit for late model cars heads the list of events. This division is open to 1949 through 1953 models of American-made passenger cars available to the general public, the same general qualifications AAA prescribes. Neither AAA nor NASCAR permits entry of station wagons, convertibles or commercial cars. Nor does AAA permit elegant hardtop convertibles to compete, although NASCAR does if a roll-over bar has been installed.

NASCAR's Grand Nationals are run at distances of 100 to 500 miles on tracks

one-half mile or longer. Its Short Track Division is governed by the same regulations as the Grand Nationals with one exception: Such races are run on tracks one-half mile or shorter. This permits small, light cars to compete successfully with larger, more powerful cars. It is the short track type of racing which has enabled Plymouth to rank ahead of powerhouses like Cadillac, Lincoln, DeSoto and others.

The NASCAR Modified Division is for souped-up stock cars. The Sportsmen's Division patterns after the Modified Division but puts more rigid limitations on modifications. Example: Modified entries may use any type transmission while only stock transmissions are allowed in the Sportsmen's.

The Futurity Division serves as a training ground for new drivers. Any car with a steel top may enter and many modifications are allowed. This division enables younger and less wealthy drivers to get a foothold.

The Speedway Division provides a class for special cars. These entries are powered by modified stock engines, but Indianapolis-type, or big car, chassis are used.

This year, an International Division was added. As the name implies, foreign stock cars race against Grand National cars in this division.

All these divisions, with their various restrictions or lack of restrictions, are partly to blame for the quarrel AAA and NASCAR have nursed along for several years. The feud is out of the public eye, but exists, nevertheless. AAA lost interest in sanctioning stock car races in pre-war days. It found that policing stock cars was a difficult and expensive undertaking. But NASCAR's remarkable success led AAA back into stock events.

Policing the cars has become difficult. Racing strictly stock cars, such as you would drive off a dealer's floor, is impractical. The frightful pounding a car takes in a 500-mile race has been compared by engineers to 100,000 miles of ordinary driving.

At first, NASCAR, AAA and other groups began to permit modifications on stock cars in the interest of safety. These safety rules insist that a quick-release safety belt be used. Roll-over bars—heavy steel bars built into the roof to support it—must be installed, and back seats must be removed. All doors must be cabled or clamped to door posts to prevent them from flying open. Screens may be placed in front of grilles to keep dirt out of the cooling system. Headlight lenses must be removed or covered with masking tape. Wheels and hubs must be reinforced



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and axles may be beefed-up. Hub caps are removed, both for safety reasons and to permit faster tire changes.

Aside from these alterations, the car must be "stock" or so say the rules. "Stock" is defined as meaning that all parts must be listed in the manufacturers' catalogs for the year, model and type of car. AAA rules forbid the entry of any car unless it is one of not less than 500 "identical" units which have been or are scheduled for production during the year. NASCAR rules require that any car raced as stock must be available to the general public.

So far, so good. But modifications go much farther than that. Ostensibly, most manufacturers take no official interest in races (although their engineering staffs are usually well represented at all major events).

So today, you will see cars screaming around tracks at speeds and distances your own car would never achieve. Why? Because several manufacturers have introduced into their catalogs what they call "severe usage" or "export" kits, but which would be more honestly described as racing equipment. Under the rules, as long as a part is listed, it qualifies as stock. Anyone should be able to obtain stock equipment.

But not everyone can. If you think you can, visit an Oldsmobile dealer and place an order for the Olds "severe usage" engine kit. Or ask a Lincoln dealer for heavy duty springs or shock absorbers or truck lifters, tappets and valve springs. Or a Hudson dealer for the dual exhaust manifold used by racers. The odds are that he will tell you that such items are not made by the company. If you point them out in the catalog and then talk him into placing the order, you will wait a long time before receiving it. Since virtually no one but a racer has need of the equipment, dealers seldom stock it—or even hear of it.

Oldsmobile, for example, lists various kits which include stronger and stiffer springs, shock absorbers and stabilizer bars; three optional gearsets; a larger gas tank (to reduce the number of pit stops a racing driver must make); bigger radiators to enlarge cooling capacity; a beefed-up rear axle; a package of equipment designed to boost the output of the standard Olds Rocket engine from 165-horsepower to near the 200-horsepower mark.

Ford carries an optional valve timing which nobody but a racing driver would ever think to ask for.

Hudson, which has capitalized as heavily as any factory on race results, has not been reticent about throwing into its catalog parts that will benefit racers. When Marshall Teague was racking up a top record as a NASCAR

driver (he switched to AAA in order to be eligible to compete in the Indianapolis 500 this year), he was driving a Hudson. On one of his earliest trips to the factory in Detroit, he made it plain that the Hudson, with its low center of gravity, or in Hudson terminology, "step-down design," would corner with any car on the market but lacked adequate accelerating power. As it turned out, Hudson engineers had experimented with dual carburetion more than 10 years prior to Teague's visit. Experimentation notwithstanding, Teague's comment was the main factor in Hudson's sudden introduction of a dual carburetion and a dual exhaust system. With its horsepower rating raised to 160 and its performance on straightaways thus improved, the Hudson Hornet has been running off with most of the prize money ever since. And, says the company, more than half its customers now buy the optional carburetion system. It does little talking about the dual exhaust system. Reason: Few of its dealers ever heard of this "optional" item, fewer still ever saw it. It is not generally available to the public.

Lincoln's racing equipment includes parts from the Ford F-8 truck—strange items, indeed, for listing as "stock" equipment on a luxury car. Among the items: F-8 truck lifters, tappets and valve springs; a camshaft designed to operate solid lifters; heavy duty springs and shocks; and shotpeened steering arms and spindles.

These companies are not exceptions. They are merely examples. Other firms are doing the same thing. What galls the purists is the fact that these cars do not measure up as "stock" in any sense. They look stock but do not perform that way.

Next time you go to a "stock car" race, the thing to remember is this: The cars are not stock. They are semi-racers, or if you please, bastards of the assembly line. To the credit of NASCAR and AAA, let it be said that they do keep cars within the limits of the ever growing parts catalogs. To insure that parts other than those catalogued are not used in races, AAA and NASCAR officials disassemble the winning cars in any stock event and inspect each part. More than one driver has been disqualified by both associations for using non-listed parts.

Also to the credit of the sanctioning groups is the safety data they obtain during the course of racing. Take the roll bar rule. To nobody's surprise, racing groups have found that today's handsome glassed-in cars with their slim roof supports will not stand the severe buffeting received when a car flips over and rolls several times. The roof often caves in, caving passengers'

heads with it. Would it be expecting too much of highly capable automotive engineers to ask that they find a way to install roll bars which would give some measure of added protection to motorists? Surely all the design and



"... And now we just dry-mop it."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

engineering genius of Detroit is capable of that.

Most race drivers can tell you of several track crashes that would have killed them had they not been strapped to their seats to keep them from flying through a door or window or forward against the windshield or dashboard.

Another protest heard in racing

circles is that manufacturers are building engines that outpower brakes. Here, indeed, is a problem to engage the minds of automotive engineers. Several current makes of cars can reach 100 mph without much strain. When it comes time to stop a couple of tons of hurtling steel, however, a tire offers a resistant surface not much larger than the sole of your shoe. Auto companies, of course, could cut back power ratings. But the first group to holler would be the racers.

In spite of the jurisdictional disputes between sanctioning groups and the somewhat deceitful classification of semi-racers as stock cars, stock racing events continue to draw ever larger crowds, ever increasing numbers of drivers and, in their way, serve as very rugged car proving grounds. If stock car racing serves no other purpose than to call attention to safety measures, it is worth continuing.

In spite of the non-stock status, stock events also are something of a product testing ground where the public may sit in to judge for itself. Officials of at least two companies—Hudson and Oldsmobile—admit that increased sales in some areas can be directly attributed to the showings made by their cars in stock races.

No matter what car dominates the racing field, however, the driving public has the best of it. In the long run the average driver will get a better automobile and while he's waiting for it he can sit in the stands and watch the "stockers" tear up the track. THE END

HOW TO MAKE STANDOUT PICTURES

(Continued from page 21)

is evidenced when the flash is mounted on the camera and the subject is staring directly at its lenses. The remedy is simple. Remove the gun from the camera or turn the subject's face to another position.

Despite the present novelty of 3-D the idea behind it is an old one which has long intrigued inventive men. Euclid first noted, about 300 B.C., that each of man's eyes, due to the space between them, surveys the scene before it from a slightly different viewpoint. The resulting dissimilarity is called binocular or stereoscopic vision.

Our eyes, forced perhaps by our crowding brains, occupy a position on the same, frontal, side of the head. Each eye sees virtually the same scene except that the left eye sees a bit more around the left side of objects, and the right eye does the same for the right side. The diagram on page 21 illustrates the effect, although to an exaggerated degree. The specific advantage of this is that we have thus a superior instrument for depth or distance perception. The two images, of course, are

interpreted as one by the brain. There are about ten other factors contributing to depth perception but, for the purposes of this article, it will be necessary to examine only two.

We are all familiar with the effect that distance has on the size of known objects. The size of all objects decreases as we go away from them and we are especially conscious of this when we view a scene containing objects at varying distances. This effect has been named *linear perspective*. It was well understood by nearly all early mathematicians and even by some of the painters of ancient Rome, as their pictures will attest. By the time the Renaissance rolled around, the study of linear perspective had been largely completed, as is evidenced, for example, by the paintings of Paolo Uccello and Andrea del Verrocchio, which is a nickname meaning "of the true eye." The amazing Leonardo da Vinci, artist, scientist and engineer extraordinary, actually wrote a treatise in which he dealt with the subject. His voluminous notes record, besides, that he observed that



wear the bi-swing

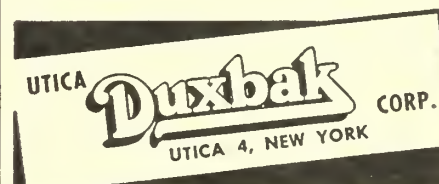
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many objects or portions of objects hidden from one eye by a near object became visible if the other eye was opened.

Another observable and familiar phenomenon is that which is due to the action of the intervening atmosphere on the distinctness and color of objects at different distances. This is called *aerial perspective*.

All three of the effects mentioned, binocular or stereoscopic vision, linear perspective and aerial perspective, together with some others, contribute in varying degrees to our ability to see objects in the round as well as to judge the distances between them. These are the very things which the twin-lens stereo camera, using modern color film, recreates in such dazzling style.

It is not generally known, but the first stereoscopic pictures were not made with a camera at all, but were experimental pairs of drawings contrived by the English physicist, Sir Charles Wheatstone, in 1832. He devised at the same time an optical viewer which successfully combined the two images so that they appeared as one and afforded the impression of solidity and relief. It was but a very short time after this that the birth of photography made it possible for Wheatstone, working with Fox-Talbot, to produce the first successful, three-dimensional photographic images. Hard upon the heels of these experiments came the invention of the first twin-lens stereo camera itself. Since by this time, quite a few people were interested in the process, it would be hard to pin this invention down to one man. History credits both

David Brewster of England and M. Quinet of Paris. Perhaps there were others, in Germany or Italy. At any rate others followed quickly and in 1857 commercially built stereo cameras were offered for sale.

Our own Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes designed, in 1861, the stereoscope which graced nearly every parlor table until after the turn of the century. During this interval, stereo was purely a spectator sport. People were "lookers at," and only rarely "takers of," the three-dimensional pictures. The equipment improved and some really superb cameras were produced, first in France, and later, in Germany. Some of these, notably the Rolleiidoscope, a roll film camera, made by the makers of the Rolleiflex, are much sought after by the discriminating, even now. The hobby failed to reach more than the most modest proportions due to the lack of good color film, proper viewers and mounting facilities. Stereo did not die but was practiced only by men who were a breed apart.

About five years ago, an American company, the David White Company of Milwaukee, undertook the manufacture of a new stereo camera and produced at the same time a companion viewer complete with its own light system. The camera uses 35mm color film, which adds the final touch needed for complete realism. Appropriately enough, the camera is named the Stereo-Realist. Its basic characteristics as well as those of its Viewer have set the pattern for the designs of other manufacturers. It takes either 16 stereo pairs on a 20-exposure roll, 29 pairs on a 36-ex-



"Guess I'll stop by and see Doc Blake tomorrow for my 1,000 mile check-up."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

posure roll or 20 pairs on the new Stereo Kodachrome 335 roll specially packed by the Eastman Kodak Company. Stereo 35mm Kodachrome sells for \$4.75 per roll and includes mounting of the slides for hand viewing. The size of the picture is 23x24mm, approximately an inch square, which the Realist pioneered. It is fitted with a good parallax-free viewfinder and coupled range finder for accurate focusing. The F:3.5 lenses are carefully matched and the shutters have speeds from 1 second to 1/150th second. Built-in flash contacts make it simple to take pictures under adverse light conditions, or indoors. The Stereo-Realist is very modern in appearance, well designed, and according to users, sturdily made. It sells for \$159.

More conventional in design is the Revere 33, product of a company well known for its production of amateur motion picture equipment and tape recorders. This camera too is fitted with matched F:3.5 lenses and coupled range finder. Shutter speeds are from 1/2 second to 1/200th second. Automatic shutter cocking takes place when the film is wound. A bubble is provided in the view finder to help keep camera level. Flash contacts are built-in and the price is \$174.50.

The Videon II is another American camera, simpler than the two above but well made and designed to offer a lot for a small outlay of money. It takes the same size and number of pictures as the Realist and Revere but does not have a range finder. Its F:3.5 lenses are fitted into shutters having speeds from 1/10th second to 1/100th second. All in all, a good, well made camera for the money, \$99.50.

The Iloca II is a second version of a simple camera, made in the Western Zone of Germany, now taking the standard 23x24mm pictures. This camera is nicely styled, simply constructed and is unique in that it is fitted with a self-timer to enable you to get into the picture yourself. (Accessory self-timers may be purchased for use with the other cameras.) With F:3.5 lenses and shutter speeds from 1 second to 1/300th second, the Iloca II sells for \$125.

We come now to a camera which, because of its unique design, demands special consideration. This is the Sawyer View-Master Personal camera, made by the makers of the famous seven-scene reels and two-dollar viewers which are familiar to all. Over 100 million of these reels have been sold and they have brought considerable pleasure to many. Although the camera uses standard 35mm film, it takes either 37 or 69 special size (12x13mm) stereo pairs to match those of the commercial reels. These pictures can be mounted in blank reels and viewed in the regular View-

Master stereoscopes. Since the picture is small, the camera's designers have provided means for taking pictures first on one half the roll as the film is drawn out of the cartridge and then on the other half while it is being rewound. A bubble level is included and the camera's matched F:3.5 lenses are fitted behind a sturdy shutter mechanism with speeds from 1/10th to 1/100th second. Built into the camera is a very simple system for setting the exposure controls, largely obviating the need for an exposure meter.

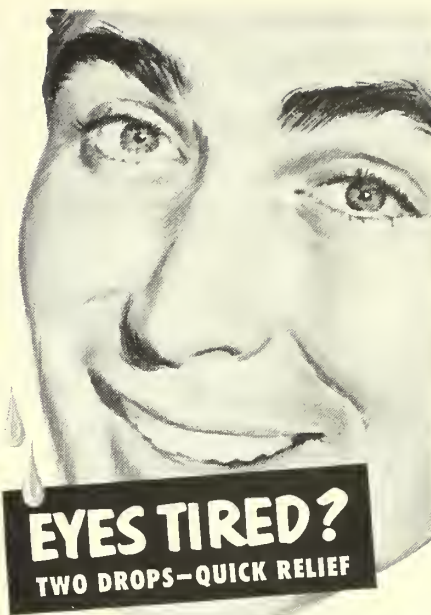
Other manufacturers have entered the stereo field but thus far chiefly to produce accessories such as viewers or projectors. While nearly all of the stereo camera manufacturers make excellent, illuminated viewers, these sell for about \$18.50 each. A low priced (\$9.95) but excellent viewer, the Brumberger, has appeared and finds much favor due to its price and simple construction. The Three Dimension Company's Stereo Vivid projector is widely used where group viewing is thought essential.

The Eastman Kodak Company will automatically return the slides mounted for hand viewing if a roll of Stereo 335 Kodachrome is sent in for processing or if a dollar accompanies a regular Kodachrome roll. It might be pointed out that a properly projected slide is a wondrous thing to behold and that stereo fans dream of the day when standards are set and all obstacles to perfect viewing are removed. The interest in viewing by projection is so widespread that the day cannot be far off. At present, the most practical method of enjoying 3-D is by hand viewers.

Where is stereo going? If we are to judge by the interest displayed by the public in 3-D movies, the answer is "Very far, indeed." The movie producers are engaged in a mad scramble to perfect the technique for their purposes. Television engineers have been no less busy and patents have already been granted for developments in this field. Books and even popular magazines are publishing stereo pictures, some to be viewed with colored spectacles and others using a mirror held in a special manner. Interest is so widespread that some dealers are finding it profitable to rent cameras. One of the most enterprising of the smaller New York dealers, Techni-Service, 144 East 44th Street, is so enthusiastic that he offers a complete package deal. This includes sale of one roll of Kodachrome film, renting the camera for a week-end, and mounting the slides; all for five dollars.

There is only one thing left to say. If you do join the ranks and get yourself one of the new 3-D cameras, your first film will almost certainly be amazingly successful and a delight to your family and friends.

THE END



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(Continued from page 4)
as Girls' State and Boys' State. I wish I might have had such a chance.
Mrs. L. H. Myers
Des Moines, Ia.

BUMPED FROM JOB

Sir: Your article in the July issue about the 240,000 displaced persons they would like or intend to bring to this country is very timely. I was employed in Philadelphia and about a month ago I was laid off due to lack of work, but a displaced person not in this country a year and also very radical was kept on. I am a 1st World War veteran 59 years of age and it is really rough when you get up to my age and have not been able to save or accumulate enough money to sit back and take it easy.

Howard Dennis
Westmont, N. J.

SENATOR TAFT'S FAULT

Sir: Bob Taft's great fault was that he was very much pro-American, a very serious crime today with the internationalists who seem to be ruling this country now, and who, it seems, are out to loot the United States of every resource we have, including our young men.

E. E. Mansell
Kansas City, Mo.

BILLIONS FOR WHAT?

Sir: There is talk these days in Washington of "making Korea a showplace of Democracy"! Meanwhile, the American public is having a rare treat seeing our boys returning from communist prisons, mere skeletons, ravaged with TB and candidates for a lifetime in hospitals or an early grave. Before the government starts using money for showplaces, these boys should be taken care of, with proper medical care first, decent housing and everything to restore their self respect when they finally get home.

Mrs. Ruth Martin
New York City

FOOLISH QUESTION

Sir: When do the war crimes trials start? I just heard the news that 1400 men, mostly Americans, started on a death march and only 150 survived. Are the Red Chinese any better than the nazis or Japanese? Or did we lose the police action? Apparently we did. We dictated terms to Japan and Germany but we begged the reds to sign a truce on their terms.

Galen Morefield
Flora, Ill.

TO THE POINT

Sir: The article *They Screamed for Justice* in the July issue was very much to the point. The American people's interest in the Rosenberg case ceased, as I think it should, when they were tried, convicted and sentenced in our American courts of law, but it took an extra effort to carry out the just and reasonable sentence, as I believe it to have been.

Riley Howard
Marysville, Ohio



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FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HUNTSMEN

(Continued from page 23)

grew to a near national calamity. Many millions of pounds sterling a year are spent by the Aussies to keep it under control. It has been estimated that since that fateful day in 1859 the wild bunny has cost the Aussie taxpayers almost fourteen billion American dollars. Even today hundreds of thousands of miles of rabbit fence must be built there annually, rivers must be blocked off, and great drives undertaken in a nationally-planned effort to keep in hand the droves of rabbits that have covered four-fifths of Australia.

The true joy of rabbit hunting comes from pursuing them with hounds. Dogs for this work extend all the way from nondescript farm fidos to basset and beagle hounds with their old country strains of untold generations of rabbit chasing. Purebreds like the bassets and beagles never require the rigorous training routines of other types. In spite of the fact that the beagle is a prime favorite as a pet, particularly in homes with young children, he's still a top-notch hunter.

They seem to know enough to look for bunnies on the lee side of a hill on a blustery day; in the tall grass or under the overhangs along a stream embankment in wet, chilly weather. Even the hunter knows that he'll find them sitting out in the open early of a bright, frosty morning following a clear, snappy fall night.

Hound dogs are prized for many qualities but perhaps none more than for their ability to make tongue-to-indicate with their voice the hotness of the trail and how the state of the chase is progressing. The good dog will work thoroughly and leisurely. He may, in fact, give br'er rabbit moments of rest occasionally, so far is the bunny ahead of him. But surely and relentlessly the hound will wear him down.

The wise hunter meanwhile from his study of the terrain coupled with the baying of the dog will have stationed himself along a path that the rabbit is likely to take, such paths generally being indicated to the initiated in rabbit country. Then, with the hound still working perfectly, not too fast to panic the quarry nor too close to it to spoil a good shot, the rabbit will eventually turn up the path the hunter is watching or dash through the spot in the open which he is covering. Then it's up to Mr. Nimrod and his trusty blunderbuss.

Odd things happen on a rabbit hunt at times. I was on a chase once in New Jersey and will never forget the large-sized bunny that ran headlong with bullet-like speed into a stretch of chicken wire netting that was protecting a garden. The dogs were able to slow down

without hitting the mesh and turn around to renew the chase before the stunned rabbit could get going.

A hunting and angling pal of mine in Westchester County, New York State, tells me he once had a companion kick a rabbit out of a disreputable stone wall and right into the maw of the dog, shortest and snappiest rabbit hunt on record, so far as I know. And a hunter over in Pike County, Pa., told me of a retrieving beagle whose owner was not only willing but eager to lend it out to those who had no pooch of their own. Reason for his unaccountable generosity was that whenever such a hunter killed a rabbit the beagle picked it up and made a bee line with it straight to its master's home.

The cottontail is a creature of contradictions. Frightened and frail, it can sometimes be bold and hardy despite its wiggling nose and shaky body. Many years ago Harry Montgomery Armstrong, then a fish and game commissioner for the State of New Jersey, told me that there was a high mortality among the buck rabbits which they imported from other States. In each shipping box four or five rabbits were found dead on arrival. Autopsies failed to reveal any disease cause, but proved that death came quickly and violently for these bunnies. And it wasn't until each rabbit was penned off by itself in the big shipping box that deaths in transit were overcome. Aggressive bucks with their long, powerful hind feet had overwhelmed and killed others among them.

Victor Cahalane, an authority on mammals noted for his work on rabbits, in pursuit of scientific studies once placed a cottontail in a cage with a bobcat. The cat was three or four times as large as the bunny, but the gate was no sooner closed than the cottontail lashed out with a hind leg and kicked the bewildered bobcat square in the mush. The nonplussed cat just sat on its haunches and didn't get around to having that rabbit for dinner until hours later.

One of the writer's earliest recollections of rabbit hunting was a trip to Connecticut's beautiful Litchfield Hills long before World War I allowed us to become eligible to join the Legion. Ashamedly, I admit today, in view of my long-established devotion to the cause of conservation, our party's equipment for that hunt included a ferret. Those were the days when the use of a ferret in rabbit hunting—now universally forbidden—was perfectly legal. A chap in hunting country who owned a ferret was as popular as a neighbor who owned a phonograph or a laboring, wheezing gasoline buggy of the day.

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A ferret was supposedly a sure-fire rabbit producer. Members of a hunt would put a rabbit into a stone wall or some such cover having several points of escape. Then they would crouch around, each guarding with his hands such openings as the rabbit might decide to escape from. Next operation was for the ferret's owner to take it from its container—generally a gunnysack—and thrust it into the hole in which the rabbit had sought refuge. The payoff was that the ferret was supposed to pick up the rabbit's trail and drive it out and into the waiting hands of one of the party. It didn't always happen that way, however. Sometimes the ferret—they always seemed like prima donnas to us, and painfully slow—would curl up for a nap in the warmth of the rabbit lair or find other distractions. Or just disappear.

This must have been the case in our expedition for Connecticut cottontails, because none of us have set eyes on that ferret from that day to this. We had the owner's word for it that it was an excellent one, but it never showed up that fall afternoon north of Bantam Lake, and neither did the rabbit. Our supposition was that the ferret figured it needed the rabbit more than we did, caught up with it, devoured it and went into pleasant repose, while we had—of all things in the woods—corned beef and cabbage for dinner that night.

In addition to the general ban on ferrets today, many States will not allow rabbits to be hunted while there is snow on the ground. The cottontail's great potential for hunting happiness and its economic value as a predator buffer by lessening the pressure on the farmers' poultry, is now widely recognized. Actually, measures to protect it have become necessary in almost every State despite its ability to multiply rapidly. In many places the rabbit stands between the citizen and no hunting at all, and its value as a quarry thus takes on considerable political significance. A hunting populace without something to hunt is not a happy one.

For one reason or another, but principally to guarantee more of them for the shooter to shoot, most States are engaged on rabbit studies today as never before. These include range survey, predator control and population trends. New York State's inquiry features a device for census enumeration which calls for the once fluffy white, cotton-like tail of the bunny to be dyed red or yellow, depending on the experimental patch it came from. Imagine how the eyes of some uninitiated rabbit hunters popped two years ago in that up-State trial patch when they came across rabbits with red tails. 'Nuff to make anyone swear off the stuff!

THE END

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(Continued from page 13)

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horrible practice sessions. He interviewed all the players and wrote about how nuts each one was about her, and how each *knew* he was her one and only. Me, he asked one question, "How do you get to the clubhouse?"

Well, it was close to zero that day, but the crowd jammed the stands, and they came from 100 miles away to see the game.

I think it was about a half hour before game time. The players were putting on their uniforms. The blonde, who was never in the lockers during dressing time, was on the field already.

All of a sudden a guy with a pair of horn-rimmed glasses and a thin moustache came walking in. He was holding the hand of a kid, who was bundled up in a hooded snow suit, wore a pair of toy airplane goggles on his eyes, and had a scarf wrapped around his mouth.

"Is Patty here?" the guy asked. Nobody paid any attention to him.

"Is Pat Haley here?" he asked, in a louder voice this time.

"Who wants to know?" asked Ox Folsom.

"Mister Haley!" the guy said. The locker room suddenly turned into a funeral vault, and 14 players froze like a line of beef in a butcher's ice box.

"You mean . . . you're . . . you're Pat's . . . Pat's . . ." Ox stammered.

"That's right—Pat's husband," the guy said. "I have been for six years."

I could hear 14 hearts exploding by the numbers. "She never told me about this," said Cy Bigelow, his face half blue and half purple. "What's the story?"

"There's no story," the guy said. "We're married. She left home against my wishes to coach. And now that the season's over, I'm here to take her back."

"If she's married, where's her wedding ring?" asked Ox.

"She threw it at me when I told her no wife of mine would coach a football team," the guy said. "But she's sorry now. She's been writing me for weeks to take her back. I finally decided to forgive her."

"She didn't say nothing about anybody coming to take her back," said Alex Crowler.

"She doesn't know about it herself," the guy said. "I just took Billy here—he's our boy—and flew out to surprise her."

"Her boy?" they all moaned. The kid with the goggles buried his face in his father's coat in that shy way some youngsters have in a strange place.

"Look fellows," Haley said. "You're all acting strange, and I don't know why. I don't want to bother you any more, since you have a big game coming up. I'll see Pat after it's over. Let's keep it a secret I'm here, and I'll surprise her later. So long! Good luck!"

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It took a good five minutes for those guys to thaw out. Then Jugger howled. "Of all the dirty, double-dealing dames! Leading me on like this when all the time she's hooked—with a kid yet! Damn it, they're all alike!"

"Leading *you* on!" said Cy Bigelow. "It's obvious since she loved *me*, I'm the guy who she's playing for a sucker. Well, I'm going right over to her and settle this once and for all."

"Let's *all* have it out with her!" they were yelling.

That's when I stepped in. "Look, you nitwits," I said, "face facts. She took you all for a ride! Okay! You'll get over it. What good is a showdown with her? She'll swear the guy's a fake, or something. She'll say she got no husband, even if you drag him to her feet. She'll say she's in love with each one of you. I know how these dames operate. *After* the game is over, and the championship dough is in the bag, she'll take the guy by the arm and say so long to a bunch of goons who gave her laughs for a year. She'll operate the team from home next year, with her kid on her lap. You guys used to play *real* football before she came. You can do it again! Let's beat that freak collector, Bimmy! And let's do it with power! Leave the dancing and patty-caking in the lockers today!"

The stands were thundering when we left the locker room, and that crazy band was playing wild Spanish music. At the bench the blonde started giving her usual sexy pep talk, but for the first time the team looked at her like she had a strange disease.

Then the Titans headed onto the field, but they weren't running and skipping on their toes the way they did all season. They were walking, as they did in the old days.

"What's wrong with them?" the blonde asked me.

"Nothing," I said. "Maybe they just woke up."

We kicked off and the Whippet half-back ran the ball back. Jugger and Ox had a double shot at him on the 30, but they moved as if their feet were nailed to the ground. They missed by acres and wound up looking at each other in the dirt.

Alex Crowler could have got him at the 40, but he swung his paw as if he were chasing a fly while napping in the sun. The guy ducked under him easily. Then at our 45 Barney Greyer, our left end, made a half-hearted try to tackle the guy, didn't come close, and accidentally bumped into one of his own men. The carrier went over for a touchdown.

The blonde jumped up and started pacing. I never saw her so worried. She went over to Doug Gerard, a sub lineman, who was on the bench, and gave him some instructions. He took them

with a cold look. Then he headed for the field. She called him again. Earlier in the year he would've come flying back with a grin on his silly pan. This time he made a motion with his hand, like he was telling her to go jump in the lake.

"I don't understand," she moaned. "I don't understand."

When we got the ball, the band started kicking up again as soon as we left the huddle. But the crowd gasped.



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There was no more rhythm swing into formation. There was no more gay jumping around and running on the toes. The ball went straight back to Callahan. He didn't dance. He just put his head down and hit the middle of the line—and he lost three yards!

"Rhythm!" the blonde shrieked. "They've got no rhythm! And they've got no teamwork! They're worse than they were last year!"

I couldn't say anything. I was too sick to talk. These weren't my old Titans, and they weren't her new ones. They were just a bunch of guys floundering around.

Through most of that first half only a miracle kept the Whippets from scoring more than four touchdowns. Then near the end of the half they started their fifth scoring march. It was a gruesome, meat-grinding affair.

Just before the gun sounded ending the half, they scored again. I rushed up to the stands to get some coffee and maybe find somebody I knew with whiskey; I needed it.

Suddenly half way up the stands I stopped. In about the 16th row I saw Haley, the blonde's husband. He was talking to somebody I couldn't quite see because Haley was blocking him from my sight. Then Haley leaned back in

(Continued on page 63)

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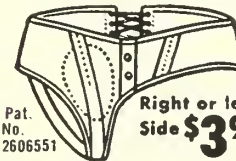
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(Continued from page 61)

his seat and started to laugh. Then I saw the guy next to him. Only it wasn't a guy, but his kid. But the kid wasn't wearing his airplane goggles, and he didn't have the scarf wrapped around his face. And he was smoking a cigar.

A midget!

All of a sudden a million things started falling together and stacking up in my mind. It took two seconds for the whole thing to tie itself into a neat little package.

I grabbed each of them with one hand, and while they squealed and howled, I half dragged and half kicked them to the locker room.

When I got there I dumped them both on the floor, while the blonde and the team looked dumbfounded.

"Pat," I said to the blonde, "meet your husband and kid."

"My *what?*" she said.

"It's nothing to worry about," I said. "It's just a little family Binmy White-side fixed up for you. The midget he got from his agency. I don't know where he got this other creep."

The two of them were scared silly as they sat on the floor.

"You see," I went on, "Binmy figured that a sure way of beating us would be to break our morale. What's a better way than by showing this lovesick team that their loved one is married—and has a kid? Binmy knew that Pat was never in the locker room before the game, so he shooed these two in then to throw the phoney story, run out, and get lost in the stands. He figured even if Pat found out about the guy and denied the whole story, there'd still be enough doubt hanging around to knock the team off. After the game was over, Binmy didn't care what happened."

I turned to the two prisoners. "Did I miss any points?"

They shook their heads.

I dragged them to the door. "Now," I said, "you're going to start running and you won't stop till late tonight. Am I right?"

They flew out, nodding their heads.

Well, the faces of those goons in the locker room lit up like a Fourth of July celebration on the sun. They grouped around the blonde and those lovesick grins I saw all year broke out like a quick epidemic. I left in a hurry.

Well, why waste time describing that second half? It was the whole season played all over again. The band was blaring, the rhythm swing was in full gear, and the team was bouncing around like a souped up '28 Ford.

As I sat there on the bench, I started asking myself, which was worse? Losing to the Whippets, playing football? Or beating them and playing like *this*?

I can still see Jugger, trapped behind the line and then doing a pirouette—I

think that's what they call those dancing spins—with his hippo-like body, and three tacklers bouncing off him like spitballs off a tank.

I can also see Ox Folsom hemmed in at the sidelines and making a dying swan leap over two players, doing a complete circle, and landing on his right foot and skipping into the end zone like a fat ballet dancer.

But the thing I saw that I like was the scoreboard: Wassilow — 41, Whittaker — 35.

The locker room after the game was a jamboree in a lunatic asylum. The team dressed quick, singing and screaming. Then they brought the blonde in and started pushing her from one to the other. Each one of them must have kissed her 10 times. She finally fought them off and told them to stop.

"Listen, you apes!" she said. "I only have love enough for one guy in this room!"

Then the place got quiet, and they all started looking at each other and at her. I was heading for the door to find Binmy and laugh hard in his face. Then out of the clear blue the blonde comes up to me, and looking into my eyes, says, "That's if he feels the same way about me."

Yeah, I married her. Don't ask me how or why it happened. I'm as surprised as anyone. She said she always admired me because I was sort of distant and mysterious and didn't moon at her like the others. Besides, she liked me because I was older and more mature than the others.

Then, of course, she *knew* it was love when she saw how smart I was to see through Binmy's trick. She liked guys with brains.

The whole thing was confusing, but I didn't argue. Besides, the season was over and I had time to look at her and whistle.

It took the team quite a while to get over the thing. But they eventually did and took the whole thing like sports. In fact, I invited all of them to act as ushers at our wedding. It was a nice affair, with *no dancing*!

The first thing I did after the wedding was get an apartment, where I put Pat with a broom and a duster. I gave her the word that that was her permanent spot. I took complete charge of the Titans, and to this day we haven't spoken a word to each other about football in the house. That's strictly *my* business!

It took a little while to patch up the squad and undo the nonsense she brought on. Now the Titans are strictly a power outfit and nothing else, and believe me, we're much better off.

I'm not worried about our present slump. Any team can lose all its games for two years in a row.

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— JOHN FALLON

Easy Victory

An old, broken-down horse was being offered to the highest bidder at an auction sale. A farmer approached the young man who had bought the horse, and asked him what he intended to do with the nag.

"Oh," replied the young fellow in riding breeches, "I'm going to race him."

The farmer took another look at the animal. "Well, you'll win," he said.

— J. O. JEWETT

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Very Sandy

Two be-boppers were trudging along through the Sahara Desert when they came upon an Arab who asked them curiously where they were going.

"We're going swimming," they told him.

"Swimming!" cried the Arab. "Why the nearest water is 1,200 miles away!"

"Well, whattaya know," declared one hepcat, as he turned to the other, "—dig this crazy beach!"

— HAROLD HELFER

Number Control

Counting to ten: The pause that represses.

— FRANCES EVELYN WOLKOV

False Modesty

It was a convention of fishermen. They came from everywhere. The tales were many, and each one tried to do better than the one before.

The man from Texas had been quiet. The crowd of fishermen was amazed that



PARTING SHOTS

he had not told about the fish caught in Texas.

Then finally he spoke. "Oh, it is nothing to brag too much about," he said. "Just six inches, you know."

"Do you mean to say that is the largest fish you have ever caught down in Texas?" asked one of the number.

"That's kereet, pardner," he replied, "only of course, down in Texas, we measure our fish between the eyes."

— N. A. CARL

Follow-Up

*He makes his round of golf and then
Decide's his score's too big
So he heads for the 19th hole
— And practices his swing.*

— MARY ALKUS

Texas Midget

The old saw about everything in Texas being bigger was refuted by the GI from there who was visiting over the Korean

countryside on a day off. The group he was in came to a hut and saw a very small horse in a pen beside the house. It was the smallest horse ever seen by any of them except the Texan. One soldier said: "That is bound to be the smallest horse in the world!"

"Shucks! You call that a small hawss?" snorted the Texan. "Why, buddy, we got a li'l ol' howss on our ranch in Texas that's as little as two o' that 'un!"

— MONT HURST

Awkward Age

*My son, I saw that painful blow
Of hammer onto thumb;
As one who once was young I know
Just why you stand there dumb.*

*For I recall, from years gone by,
That age of mute despair
When one is just too old to cry
and yet too young to swear.*

— JAMES W. POWER

Misleading

*The trouble with too many movie ads
these days—they're exaggerated.*

— CHARLES H. BRANCH

Good Sense

We teasingly asked 90-year-old Grandpa why he didn't get married again, to which he promptly replied: "Well, I'll tell you. There ain't but one kind of a woman who'd have an old codger like me, and I'll be durned if I'm going to settle down and live with a fool."

— GEORGE PRIMM, JR.

Base Ballerina

*As a softball player
This cute young dame
Makes a pretty pitcher
— And what a frame!*

— BERTON BRALEY

Hic! Jacet

*To drive while on benders
Is hard on your fenders.*

— ETHEL JACOBSON



"I should think you'd get tired of eating breakfast *every* morning."

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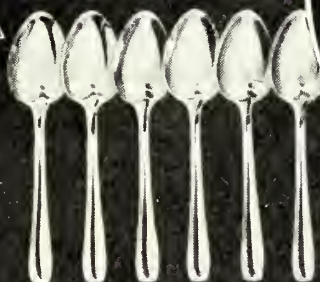
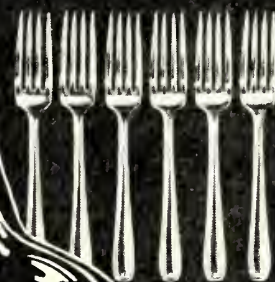
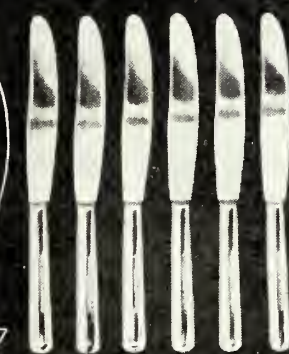


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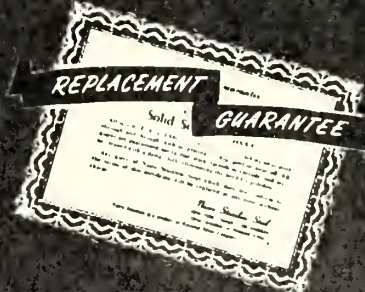
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